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NEWS

Kenyon mourns
Sentel, p. 3

OPINIONS

Ludders' drunken
rambling, p. 8

FEATURES

Chapbook: A poetic
rebirth? p. 11

A&E

Kenyon loves books,
p. 7

SPORTS

Lords and Ladies
track earn 8th, p.13

T·H·E·K·E·N·Y·O·N C·O·L·L·E·G·I·A·N

Volume CXXX, Number 16

ESTABLISHED 1856

Thursday, February 6, 2003

Nugent named 18th President

All-campus assembly introduces Nugent

BY BRYAN STOKES II
AND ROBBIE KETCHAM
Collegian staff

On Tuesday at 4:15 p.m., S. Georgia Nugent was introduced to the Kenyon community as the 18th president of Kenyon College at a convocation held in Rosse Hall. This announcement came in the wake of a unanimous vote by the Board of Trustees to elect Nugent to this post.

"Our decision was the result of the unanimous recommendation of the Presidential Search Committee, headed by my friend and fellow trustee, Buffy Hallinan of the class of 1976," said Board of Trustees Chair David Horvitz '74 during the convocation.

The Presidential Search Committee, formed by the trustees following the resignation of Robert A. Oden Jr., made the decision to recommend Nugent last Thursday. Oden is currently president of Carleton College in Minnesota.

"At every step of the process, each of these fine individuals [on the search committee] properly viewed Kenyon as their responsibility, made their decision and took their actions on the basis of what is good for Kenyon as an institution, looking beyond the interests of any one constituency," said Horvitz. "This is the proper

way to have done this, and I'm proud to have been a part of it."

Rosse Hall was nearly filled to its 650 person capacity by faculty, students and administrators for the 20 minute convocation. Nugent, upon ascending to the podium, received clamorous applause. Announcing her resolve to speak of something which she may never speak on again, Nugent chose love as the focus of her address.

"I have come to feel that a community and a college like this can only flourish and achieve its full potential if it is deeply grounded in a foundation of love," said Nugent in her first address to the Kenyon community. "Clearly I have in mind here not the syrupy stuff of Hallmark cards, nor the romantic clichés of pop lyrics, but of something much graver, more spiritual and stronger. I want to consider this phenomenon of love under three headings, from the more to the less abstract. The love of learning, the love of Kenyon, and the love of one another. I think that many of us might agree that a love of learning underlies higher education in general, and perhaps liberal arts education particularly.

"Not surprisingly, I look at it in Greek terms," continued Nugent. "We're thinking not of *eros*, erotic love, and not quite *agape* either, that brotherly love or charity which the early Christian community embraced,



Amy Gallese
President-elect S. Georgia Nugent delivers her first address to the Kenyon community.

No, the love of learning seems to be better characterized as *philos*, a term from which we have so many English derivatives: philothopy, philanthropy, Philander. *Philos* can cover a spectrum of meaning, including a friend or family member. It essentially means what is dear to you, so close and important to you that you essentially think of it as a part of yourself."

Nugent, who currently holds the post of Dean of the Harold W. McGraw Jr. Center for Teaching and Learning at Princeton University. A classicist, Nugent has been a professor at Swarthmore College, Cornell University and Brown University, as

see NUGENT, page four

Nugent pledges initial administrative stability

BY TARYN MYERS
Editor-in-Chief

"I think the first role of the leader is to do some very serious work in the beginning. They can stretch that period too long. I think, but to plunge right into an atmosphere, especially one that's as closely knit, as sort as self-consistent, and has, as I perceive it, so much of a shared world view, I think you can't come in and start taking action before you're familiar with that," said S. Georgia Nugent, who will become Kenyon's 18th President in July. The Presidential Search Committee's decision and the approval of Nugent by the Board of Trustees was announced to Kenyon via a *Fortnightly* e-mail and press release Monday evening. Members of the Kenyon community gathered in Rosse Hall the next afternoon to meet Nugent, who delivered a speech during a Convocation ceremony and then met with the *Collegian* for an interview afterwards.

Speaking on how she will approach her role as president, Nugent said, "What I will want to do is really try to take time to talk with a lot of people and hear from them what they feel is important to be addressed at the College, hopes and aspirations they may have. While I have some views myself, I can't possibly rely on them without having a much better under-

standing of the College."

Nugent said that she first became interested in the position when she heard about it from a friend of her husband, Thomas Scherer, who is general counsel for the financial services division of Swiss Re, an insurance company in New York City. The Kenyon presidency caught her eye because, as she said, "I've always been interested in the small, liberal arts college... my first teaching appointment was at Swarthmore. And even though I've taught largely at Princeton and at Brown, those both have, even though they're large research universities, a very strong focus on the undergraduates and quite small graduate schools. So I've always felt that's what I care about most. Kenyon in particular interested me because of being Kenyon, because of the literary tradition, and the *Review* and all that... It just seems to be a name I've always known and respected. And then when I started to look into it more and actually learned more about it, I was just more and more impressed. Interestingly, it has come to feel more and more the right fit."

When she did visit Gambier, she did so because, as she explained, "I thought, 'I have to see Gambier, I can't have any notion whether this is of interest to me or not.' So I drove out on

see PRESIDENT, page four

Emmert selected for Council

BY JAMES LEWIS
Senior Staff Reporter

This week Village Council appointed a new member to Council, as well as considered increases in the water rates that village residents are charged and considered changing the nature of the position of Village clerk and treasurer.

A vacancy on Council was created by member Read Baldwin's resignation due to the fact that he would be temporarily moving to Chicago. Two Village residents volunteered to fill the spot. Kirk Emmert, Professor of Political Science at Kenyon, as well as Phil Brooks, who works in the Public Affairs office at

Kenyon, both volunteered to fill the spot. Emmert had previously served on Gambier's Shade Tree Commission, and his familiarity factored into the 3-2 vote in which he was chosen over Brooks to fill the position. Mayor Michael Schlemmer said of Emmert's selection, "most of us were familiar with Professor Emmert," and cited his record of volunteering with the Village. Schlemmer went on to add that Brooks had been invited to fill Emmert's spot on the Shade Tree Commission and that both candidates seemed to be qualified for the job. Schlemmer said of the Village, "On occasions when we have had openings we have citizens willing to step up... nei-

ther of them would be bad for the spot."

Brooks indicated that he would take the spot on the committee. He said of the prospect of running for office in the future, "When the elections come up, I may do it. I'll have to think it over." Brooks says that "generally preserving the character of the Village" is one of his main concerns of Village government.

Council also had to consider cost-saving initiatives in order to balance the budget. One source of financial woes for the Village has been the cost of water. The Village is provided with water by the city of Mt. Vernon, which has in the last few years, in-

see VILLAGE, page three

New coach to be named

BY JAY HELMER
AND BRYAN STOKES II
Collegian staff

The *Collegian* has learned that the search committee for a new football coach has extended an offer to an assistant from another Division III program to become Kenyon's Head Coach.

Sources close to the football team confirmed that the offer has recently been made, and Athletic Director Peter Smith said, "[A decision] will be announced]

very, very soon." According to Kenyon Sports Information Director Marty Fuller, this decision could be released as early as today.

Last week the team spent time meeting the committee's top five choices on campus. The search began with the resignation of former Head Coach Vince Arduini Nov. 13. Former Kenyon Assistant Football Coach Wally Hood has been helping the team as a recruiting consultant for the upcoming season.

WEATHER OR NOT

Tonight: Occasional snow. High: 28°F, low: 20°F.
Friday: Chance of snow, showers. High: 25°F, low: 10°F.

Saturday: Cloudy, chance of snow. High: 25°F, low: 15°F.
Sunday: Chance of snow. High: 25°F, low: 16°F.

GLBTQQ community gains resource center

BY TARYN MYERS
Editor-in-Chief

Last week, plans were finalized for a Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Questioning (GLBTQQ) resource center on Kenyon's campus, in what is now Bexley 100A. This center is the result of a proposal that was presented to the administration by Emily Bettin '03, Tom Schlesinger-Guidelli '05 and Kate-Robin Stuart '04. Although all three of these students are members of Allied Sexual Orientations (ALSO), they put together this proposal independent of that group, and the student manager of the resource center will actually serve as the head of a new GLBTQQ organization on campus.

As Acting Director of Multicultural Admissions Densil Porteus '02, who will serve as the Liaison for Student GLBTQQ Concerns and administrative liaison for the new center, explained, "This position is in no way related to ALSO, GABLES or any other GLBTQQ organization on campus."

Dean of Students Don Omahan, who was extensively involved in the process of considering this center, explained the idea and the process in fur-

ther detail, saying, "The GLBTQQ Resource Center is being modeled after the very successful experiences we have had with the Crozier Center, the Snowden Center and, most recently, the Hillel House. We have also looked for ideas to other campus program facilities that have student managers, namely Weaver, Peirce, Gund Commons, the KC, the Craft Center and the Black Box Theater. It is a model that works well at Kenyon."

Omahan went on to say, "It provides all of us in the College community with a clear opportunity to make a strong statement about our commitment to and support of the GLBTQQ community on the campus."

The three students all emphasized that Omahan and other members of the administration had been very open to the idea. As Schlesinger-Guidelli said, "The administration has been nothing but supportive. They have raised the tough questions at the appropriate times and helped to solve all problems that have come about."

Exemplifying this sentiment, Dean of Residential Life Samantha Hughes, who has been involved in helping to select the space for the center, said, "I thought the proposal was well thought out and the rationale given

was very strong. In short, I was immediately supportive of such a center."

This proposal has received support outside of the administration, as well. As Bettin explained, "Tom and I, in the early stages of planning and proposal, approached a number of student groups to gain support and/or input. We heard only positive feedback during this stage, as well as through to the present."

Stuart agreed, saying, "Since I have been back, I have only received positive support from student organizations pertaining to the center."

Hughes thinks that the center is an important addition to campus. As she explained, "The GLBT population at Kenyon is roughly 8-10% of the overall population—a significant segment of the Kenyon community. I believe the resource center will help improve the cohesiveness of the GLBT community as well as educating the greater Kenyon community on GLBT issues."

On the idea of the necessity of the resource center on campus, Bettin said, "The need for this resource center is critical. GLBTQQ students and staff are an important minority on campus, yet are underrepresented in both available resources and physical allotment of space. Although the College is continually making strides to create respect and understanding for all minority groups on campus, the majority of discrimination incidents are directed at GLBTQQ students, including three highly publicized incidents just this fall. The allotment of space will not only create safety, but an important visual statement of importance as well as much needed educational and programming resources

which will benefit the entire Kenyon community."

Bettin also commented that "The national average for people identifying as GLBTQQ is about 10%—we have no reason to believe Kenyon's statistics would be different—which is almost identical to the admission department's citation for students of color (11%) and to what Hillel cites as the student Jewish population."

Three students will live in the resource center, and the position may be applied for by an individual or a group of students. The manager will be selected by a committee comprised of Bettin, Porteus, Dean for Academic Affairs Jane Martindell, Associate Dean of Students Cheryl Steele and Professor of Classics Robert Bennett. As Bettin explained, "The requirements for the manager will be a student who can effectively create a safe, welcoming, and active programming center. We will be looking for someone who understands and prioritizes the needs and wants of the entire Kenyon GLBTQQ community and has creative ideas about how to address these. We will look for a student who is responsible, organized and committed to making this center a long-term success. The sexuality of the manager will not be a qualification for selection, nor will this question be asked during the selection process."

As to whether she is interested in applying for the student manager position, Stuart said, "Although I have considered applying for the position, I have not yet decided. I feel very strongly about the center, and I am happy to have been able to help bring a much needed center to this campus."

Schlesinger-Guidelli and Bet-

tin have already been through an extensive process in order to get the center approved. As he explained, "During October, a few members of the Gay Alumni Association (GALA), came to campus to discuss what Kenyon needed to be a more gay-friendly place. The alumni met with many different groups of people throughout their weekend on campus. One thing that repeatedly came up in their discussions with students, faculty, staff and administration was the lack of a safe space and resource center. In our Saturday afternoon session people were asked how important this was to them and for most people it appeared to be the number one priority. Volunteers were asked for to work on the project and Emily and I began to work on the creation of a center. We drafted a letter which was then presented to [Assistant] Dean [of Students and Director of Multicultural Affairs Chris] Kennerly who offered his support and suggested that we bring the proposal to Dean Omahan. Emily and I worked together to put a more comprehensive proposal together, which included comparison of other similar College's and the resources they afforded their GLBTQQ community."

One of the most important aspects of the center in Bettin's eyes that she went on to emphasize is, as she put it, "I would like to reiterate that this center will not be exclusive, either in manager selection or in general access. It is a center that was created to address the needs of a specific community, but welcomes and encourages interest, interaction and use by all members of our community, regardless of sexuality."

VILLAGE RECORD

January 29 - February 4, 2003

Jan. 29, 4:20 p.m.—Non-injury vehicle accident on Gaskin Avenue.

Jan. 30, 1:00 a.m.—Chemical fire extinguisher discharged at Old Kenyon.

Jan. 31, 8:20 p.m.—Medical call regarding student injuring ankle in fall outside Bexley Hall. The student was transported to the Health and Counseling Center.

Jan. 31, 10:06 p.m.—Drug paraphernalia found in room at Lewis Hall.

Jan. 31, 11:55 p.m.—Medical call regarding a student with a cut head. Student was transported to the hospital by a friend.

Feb. 1, 2:17 a.m.—Vandalism windows broken by snowballs at New Apartments.

Feb. 1, 3:15 a.m.—Medical call regarding student injuring ankle in fall at Gund Commons. Ankle was wrapped and iced. Student advised to see College physician in the morning.

Feb. 1, 11:20 p.m.—Underage possession of alcohol at Old Kenyon.

Feb. 1, 11:26 p.m.—Underage possession of alcohol at Mather Residence.

Feb. 1, 11:28 p.m.—Unregistered party and underage possession of alcohol at Norton Hall.

Feb. 2, 12:30 a.m.—Underage

consumption of alcohol outside Peirce Hall.

Feb. 2, 12:52 a.m.—Medical call regarding student with cut hand, windows punched out in Leonard Hall. Student was transported by squad to the hospital.

Feb. 2, 1:06 a.m.—Medical call regarding student cutting hand on broken glass at Leonard Hall. Underage consumption of alcohol. Student transported to Health and Counseling Center.

Feb. 2, 4:29 p.m.—Medical call regarding student bitten by a dog off campus. The student was transported to the Health and Counseling Center.

Feb. 2, 5:36 p.m.—Medical call regarding ill ARA employee. Employee was transported to the hospital.

Feb. 2, 10:41 p.m.—Fire alarms at Watson Hall and McBride Residence, caused by burnt food in kitchen areas.

Feb. 3, 1:10 p.m.—Drug paraphernalia found in room at Hanna Hall.

Feb. 3, 4:51 p.m.—Stolen property recovered in room at Gund Hall.

Feb. 4, 10:35 a.m.—Vandalism to golf cart outside Maintenance Grounds building.

Feb. 4, 1:52 p.m.—Underage possession of alcohol in room at McBride Residence.

KAN KENYON KAN-KAN?



Kenyon College Ballroom Dance Club members Madeleine Podnar '03, Allyson Whipple '06, Katy Cossé '06 and Grace Culbertson '05 demonstrate their can-can skills at Phling.

CORRECTIONS

In the Jan. 23, 2003 issue of the *Collegian*, the article entitled "Senate talks discrimination," Associate Dean of Students Cheryl Steele was cited as having said that sophomore Geoffrey Nelson would review Red Door Café applications. However, Vice President for Finance Joseph G. Nelson should have been listed instead. Also, Steele is listed as Assistant Dean of Students rather than Associate Dean of Students.

In the Jan. 30, 2003 issue of the *Collegian*, the article entitled "Kenyon creates GLBT resource center," Thomas Schlesinger-Guidelli was listed as co-president of Allied Student Orientations (ALSO), although he resigned from this position earlier this year. In addition, the statement submitted to the *Collegian* was not submitted by ALSO, but rather by Emily Bettin '03, Thomas Schlesinger-Guidelli '05 and Kate-Robin Stuart '04, independent of any association with ALSO.

The *Collegian* apologizes for any confusion resulting from these errors.

Village: Open forum

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE
creased the cost of water. Initially, previous Village Councils have chosen to accept that increase in costs and to subsidize the disparity between what residents pay and what it cost the city from the general fund. On Monday, however, a resolution was introduced which would increase water rates by 5%. Schlemmer said of the measure, "we need to raise our rates in order to balance our budget" and, "fact of the matter is that from a financial standpoint we're obligated to do this."

The resolution, while seeming to gain approval from Council during discussion of the budget, still needs to be approved in a separate ordinance, and that this was only the first public reading of the resolution. Schlemmer said that this will give residents a chance to express their feelings about the increase in the future.

In addition to raising water rates to balance the budget, Council also gave first reading to an ordinance which will decrease Village employees' healthcare coverage. Previously they had all of their costs covered by the Village, now the Village will require employees to pay 10% of their costs if this ordinance will pass. The Village did agree to give Village employees the annual 5% increase in pay.

Finally on the table was a piece of legislation which would make the Village clerk and treasurer an appointed position rather than an elected one. At this point, because it is an elected position, only a Gambier resident can hold the position. Schlemmer said of the position, "It's conceivable that you can run into a point when you may not have anyone qualified or interested." This was the final reading of that ordinance, and no vote has yet been taken.

'Good friend' will be missed

BY ROBBIE KETCHAM
Editor-in-Chief

"If the world were full of Butch Sentels, there wouldn't be any need for security officers or police."

With such words, Kenyon Director of Security and Safety Dan Werner summarized the unique career and character of Security officer Edwin E. "Butch" Sentel, who passed away Wednesday, Jan. 29, at Med Central Hospital in Mansfield, Ohio, of heart and kidney failure.

Werner, like many of his fellow colleagues, described Sentel as an innocent trickster, untucking people's shirts or turning off Werner's office lights without warning. "He would always bring a smile to the office," said Werner. Even in 2002, when he was on medical leave for much of the year, Werner said that Sentel would stop by the office routinely, and offer his humor to the department staff.

"I think the best part of Butch was his sense of humor and always playing jokes on people," said Security officer Deb Shelhorn. "He was the first one to try to get me in trouble and would be the first one to help me if I ever was in trouble. Butch was a generous person and had a heart of gold. He will be deeply missed."

"His sense of humor, dedication to the department and the College will sadly be missed," said Assistant Director of Security Bob Hooper. "The one area that I am most proud of and will miss the most, I have lost a good friend. This department functions as a family, a very close knit group of people. What affects one usually affects all of us in one way or another. In Butch, we have lost a member of our family."

Sentel came to Kenyon's security office in 1988. When he took medical retirement at the end of December 2002, his co-workers presented him with a plaque

bearing the inscription "The lights stay on, the shirts stay tucked, the smiles we miss, the orneriness we loved." Werner also said that the Security Officer of the Year Award has now been named in Sentel's memory. Sentel was 57, a resident of Gambier and a lifelong resident of Knox County. He was a U.S. Army veteran, serving in the 82nd Airborne Division. He is survived by his wife of eleven years, Maralyn Gerrard Sentel; three daughters, Terri Donaldson, Christine Yoakam and Sandra Teiga; a son, Jeffrey Yoakam; eight grandchildren and a sister, Linda Coler.



Amy Gallese

"Butch" Sentel poses outside of the Security and Safety Durango that he was often seen driving while protecting the campus.

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Gambier Gallery to change hands

BY MEGAN RAFFERTY
Staff Writer

The Gambier Gallery on East Brooklyn Avenue will be closing its doors in the coming months. Staci Staats, the owner, has decided to move to Texas at the end of the year. "I've lived in Ohio my whole life, but I've always wanted to move south. I figured I could wait five years, but I could just do it now," she said. "I'd like to live near the ocean. I want to wake up with my coffee looking out at the water and go to bed with a brandy looking at the same water."

Kenyon College purchased the Gambier Gallery property as a package deal when it purchased the Pirate's Cove from Jeanne Corrigan. Staats and the College signed a lease so she could continue there. There is a clause in her lease that allows her to transfer to another owner of a similar business. Kenyon must approve of the buyer, according to Manager of Business Services Fred Linger.

Staats opened the Gallery in May of 2001. Previously, she was a stay-at-home mother. The Gallery offers flower arrangements, pottery, artwork and art displays by local artists. Staats also



Laura Seckel

The Gambier Gallery, located on Brooklyn Street, will be sold by Staats.

added a tanning bed, which is very popular. Evonne Skoutelas '03 has gone tanning there several times. "I really appreciate the convenience of the location," she said. "It has flowers and tanning, what more could you want?" said Sara Rudolph '03.

Most of the Gallery's business is with Kenyon students during the school year, and during the summer a "fresh batch of people" came every week for conferences and camps. Staats has said that her favorite things about running the Gallery were her pottery lessons, learning to arrange flowers and giving local artists a place to show

their artwork.

"I'm going to miss running this business, but I'll call back and see how it's going from my warm house in Texas," said Staats.

Staats has four and a half years left on the lease. She is not sure exactly when the Gallery will close, since she has so much to plan with the move and looking for a buyer. She has had a couple of people interested in the Gallery, but no firm offers yet. "I think it's a real benefit to the students to have something here," she said. "I hope to find a buyer who appreciates this place as much as I did."

JUDICIAL BOARD REPORT

The Campus Constitution (p. 124 in the current *Student Handbook*) states that the Kenyon College Judicial Board provides to the community a summary of the cases it hears each semester, not including the names of students. This report from the Judicial Board Chair, on behalf of the Board, is for the fall semester of the 2002-03 academic year.

1. One student was charged with violating College regulations related to fire safety (activating a fire alarm). The student was found not guilty based on a preponderance of the evidence.
2. One student was charged with violating College regulations related to conduct and failure to comply. The student was found guilty of both charges and given the sanction of disciplinary probation through graduation and mandatory counseling for anger management.
3. One student was charged with violating College regulations related to sexual misconduct (sexual assault and inappropriate or unwanted sexual touching). The student was found not guilty based on a preponderance of the evidence.

Nugent: Trustees select first female president

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE
well as a lecturer at Princeton.

"There is a long tradition of classicists being administrators," said Professor of Classics Robert Bennett. "Maybe it's because classicists understand the foundation of things that are broadly learned in unique traditions. She comes out of that tradition, and I'm very excited about her being here. I think she'll be a superb president. She's witty, charming, funny. It's going to be very exciting. And we look forward to having her in the department, to the extent that she has time to do it."

Assistant Professor of Classics Carolin Hahnemann served as a teaching assistant under Nugent during her time at Brown University. Hahnemann commented on that experience in an e-mail statement to the *Collegian*.

"Georgia Nugent was teaching a large course on myth called 'The Hero: Athlete or Intellectual' with six discussion sections, two of which she taught herself (to her eternal credit), while the other four were split between another graduate student and myself," said Hahnemann. "I had arrived in America only the previous year and, since there is no such thing as a discussion section or, for that matter, an undergraduate in the German academic system, I had a great need of someone who would teach me how to teach. With

hindsight, I am sure that this was the reason why my department assigned me to Georgia. She was known to have a keen interest in pedagogy; later she started a series of brown-bag lunches where different faculty members discussed their teaching methods with us.

"At the time, I was so busy improving my languages—not least my English—and learning about ancient literature and culture that it would have been all too easy to forget about that fateful day in the future when I would have to organize all this information into a course of my own," continued Hahnemann. "But Georgia did not let us forget and, what is more, she tried to help us along. Many years have passed in the meantime in which I have had the constant opportunity to learn from my students, my colleagues and even my mistakes, but I still think that it was during my assignment as a TA to Georgia's myth course that I first fell in love with teaching—a case of 'philia' with a substantial dose of 'eros' mixed in. All this is a long way of saying that, since I believe that Georgia has a heartfelt commitment to teaching and since teaching lies at the heart of Kenyon, I think this is a fabulous match."

"By the time July 1 rolls around, two people in the Kenyon classics department will know this woman personally from years ago... so it's a small world," said Professor of Classics Cliff



Amy Gallese

Members of the Kenyon community wait in line for the opportunity to share a few words with Kenyon's 18th President, S. Georgia Nugent.

Weber, also mentioning a connection between a recently hired Classics professor who currently teaches at Swarthmore, where Nugent once taught.

Nugent, who dropped her first name "Suzy" during graduate school according to the *Chronicle for Higher Education*, has been published widely. According to a Kenyon news release, in addition to numerous articles and presentations, Nugent has published one book on allegory and poetics, and is currently writing a work entitled *The Representation of Women in Roman Epic* for Oxford University Press.

Following the convocation, Nugent received optimistic praise

from several people in attendance.

"I'm energized. I think we're all energized by this," said Dean for Academic Advising Jane Martindell.

"I thought she gave a wonderful presentation, and I look forward to meeting her. I think she has a lot of good credentials," said Hillel Director Michael Cooper.

During her teaching career, Nugent has been awarded numerous fellowships and awards, including the Wriston Award for Excellence in Teaching, National Endowment for the Humanities, Fulbright and other research fellowships. She is also credited with creating Princeton's Educational Technologies Center, for

which she was profiled in a June 29, 2001 article in the *Chronicle for Higher Education*.

Of the search, Hallinan enumerated the desirable qualities which the committee found in Nugent.

"Georgia Nugent shone brightest because of her experience at Princeton, her strength as a teacher, and the way she engages people when she first meets them, and we believe she has great people to be the next spokesperson for Kenyon," said Hallinan. "We had broad discussion about all of the candidates, and the committee was pretty clear on how it felt about each of the candidates before they arrived, and our feelings about Georgia Nugent after her visit were confirmed."

Outgoing Acting President Ronald A. Sharp, who will resume the role of Provost in July 2003, is similarly excited about Kenyon's new president-elect. "I think she's terrific," he said. "I'm really excited about her. I think she's extraordinarily bright and wonderfully personable and has lots of good ideas."

"This shared desire for a life of continuous learning, binds us together in a special way," said Nugent. "I've only just embarked on learning in the company of friends, but I know that that learning, and that circle of friends will continue to grow."

President: Looking forward to joining Kenyon life

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE
what was just about the day before this semester started and there had just been a snow. It was all pretty quiet and snow-covered and beautiful. I love campus. I love the collegiate gothic buildings. I love what's been done—the modern buildings are wonderfully kind of consonant with that."

This was not her first experience with the Kenyon community, however. She had already met with the members of the Presidential Search Committee before that, and "That was very interesting, and that contributed to my interest, too. I initially went to meet the members of the committee in Columbus, and that was scheduled to be an interview of about an hour and a half with approximately 20 people. And it was just extraordinary. Just from the very beginning, there seemed to be a special kind of rapport. We just got along immediately. That was striking to me. It didn't feel difficult. It didn't feel edgy. I just felt this kind of receptivity and warmth, and almost already a friendship... Nothing's changed. As I came to campus a couple weeks later, I met with a lot of people, and in every meeting, I felt there was a wonderful kind of meeting of the minds. So it was a delightful process for me, and I was quite amazed."

Nugent also said that one of the first things she wants to do when she gets to campus is to continue to build that kind of rapport. "My first intention is to go out and meet with people in their offices, their classrooms, whatever it is," she said. "Having done that, and sort of seeing how things are for people—where they work, where they

are—then I'll see what ways I want to fit into that picture... I'll just look for opportunities to interact with people."

She also said, "I want to find some way that will be meaningful to interact regularly with students." She brought up potential examples of having students over to Cromwell for dinner or potentially even having a mini-seminar at some point, but she was also quick to point out that those are very tentative suggestions.

Although she continually emphasized that she cannot make any statements about possible changes on campus until she has been here and gotten to know the campus, Nugent did say, "I think the first thing that's in my mind is that it seems to me that Kenyon should be better known than it is, so that's not a change on campus... If I were to imagine anything I might change at this early state, it may be something about our self-representation to the larger world, both national and international."

She also spoke about some of the issues that are causes of debate or concern at Kenyon. "Greek life is going to be somewhat new for me," she said.

Although she also said she did not yet know enough to address the issues surrounding Kenyon's athletic department, particularly the football team, she did speak to the concern that people might have that because she is a female president, she will not be as adept at handling the athletic department, saying, "I think there are a number of female presidents who would show that not to be the case... Even in my most recent role at the McGraw center, I formed a particularly close

working relationship with the director of athletics. So, I think that's a stereotype that needn't be true... I think what's important to students should be important to me."

Nugent is also very aware of the fact that Kenyon only fairly recently became co-ed. In fact, she graduated among the first class of women at Princeton the same year the first women graduated from Kenyon. She spoke on this shared experience, saying, "For me, it was actually a very good experience being at Princeton. I would say there were almost no problems that I encountered because of being a woman. I'm coming to understand that there was perhaps an easier transition for the very first classes of women at Princeton than there was here with the notion of the coordinate college."

"In one way," she continued, "I think there's probably a bit of divergence between my experience and Kenyon women. On the other hand, that was actually another attraction for me to Kenyon because I thought there's a lot of commonality here. Understanding what it's like to be a part of what has been for so long an all-male institution. Having a kind of sympathy and understanding for what the alumni body of that kind of institution looks like; that all feels very comfortable to me... I feel that there's a lot of a shared sense of history that will be valuable."

Nugent, who was the first female graduate of Princeton to become a full-time faculty member there and also the first dean of

Princeton's McGraw Center, said that she does not foresee any difficulties in being the first female president at Kenyon, saying, "I must say I think that's a part of having been the first woman at doing 'x' or 'y' or 'z.' I would imagine there will be a few people who will be uncomfortable with that... but I don't anticipate any major difficulties."

She also said that her career of "firsts" may have prepared her for this position, "only in the sense that it isn't unusual or difficult or particularly challenging for me to be the first at doing something. I didn't set out to do that, but now it just has happened to me a number of times in my life, so I think there's just a level of comfort with that that's probably a good thing."

Nugent, whose academic interests lie in the classics, specializes in examining the role of women in classical literature, which have been referred to as "maverick female characters." When asked if she saw herself as one of these mavericks, Nugent smiled and said, "Am I a bit of a maverick? Probably. It's not so much that maverick female charac-

ters interest me, it's looking at the kind of hidden significance of female characters, who are very much present in classical work, and not only present, they're extremely influential, often behind the scenes in some ways. It quite interesting to me that in the field of classics, which has until recent years been a pretty male-dominated field, they've just kind of disappeared. They were sort of invisible. It was all about the male hero. Well, nine times out of 10, the male hero is either undertaking a quest on behalf of a female or seeking some female, or something like that, so it was more a matter of trying to look at... the other side of the story—what's the role that women are playing?"

In concluding the interview, Nugent spoke about what she would like members of the Kenyon community to know about her. "I do often tend to think through my classical training, in some ways," she said. "I do often tend to think of higher literature... I'm kind of not afraid to do something a little bit unusual."

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Ohio Chinese Arts Troupe comes to KC from ASIA

Columbus' 12-member dance and music ensemble will celebrate Chinese New Year on February 8

BY LINDSAY WARNER
A&E Editor

"They are best known for combining different forms of traditional Chinese arts into one performance. It's like a 'combo' or 'assorted platter'—you get a little

Chinese Music and Dance Program

Chinese Instrumental Music:
1) Happy song
2) Han Tian Lei by SL, Lee, Yu Xia, Yuyu Tao, Fengqin Yin, Ligu Wang, Huiming Zhang.

Solo Dance: Dai Zu (a small southern ethnic group in China) folk dance, A Shi Ma back to hometown by Yan Zhao.

Martial Arts: Dragon Sword by Tianrong An

Solo Pipa (an old Chinese string instrument): Liu Yang He by Yu Xia

Folk Dance: Happy New Year by Jin Fang et. al.

Bamboo Clapper Performance: Happy New Year by Huiming Zhang

Solo Dance: Friendship by Yan Zhao

Beijing Opera: Sha Jia Bang, by Fengqin Yin and Xudong Jin

Martial Arts: Liu Xing Chui by Tianrong An

Solo Bamboo Flute: Shiford New Song by Huiming Zhang

Folk dance: Missing, by Ruju Chen et. al.

Acrobatics: Chinese Yuyiu by Mengxian Guo and Mengde Guo

Chinese music instruments: Zi Zhu Diao, Bu Bu Gao by SL, Lee et. al.

bit of everything," said Associate Professor of Chinese Jianhua Bai of the Ohio Chinese Arts Troupe, which will be performing at Kenyon this Saturday. The show will be in Rosse Hall at 8 p.m. and is sponsored by the Kenyon Campus Community Development

Fund, Asian Studies and the Asian Students for International Awareness (ASIA).

The Ohio Chinese Arts Troupe is a group of 12 performers who hail from Columbus, and they will be presenting traditional Chinese music, dance, singing and martial arts. The troupe is part of a program organized to celebrate the Chinese New Year on Feb. 8. Also included in the day's festivities are a martial arts workshop, led by sophomore Ben Tuck and freshman Matt Gruen at 1 p.m., and a Jiaozi workshop, led by Chinese Language Teaching Fellow Haiyan Cui. Bai compares the Jiaozi to "dumplings or pot stickers when they get fried, which is served on New Year's Day in every house of Northern China, if not all over China."

The Ohio Chinese Arts Troupe's program includes instrumental performances on bamboo flutes, a bamboo clapper performance, a solo pipa performance and other traditional Chinese in-

struments. A pipa is a four-stringed lute almost like a guitar, but with more of a pear-shaped body, and has been in written Chinese records since the second century B.C.

Wondering what a bamboo clapper is? Picture the "spoon dancers" in the subways of New York City who created cadences by clicking two spoons together. There are similarities. The bamboo clapper performance promises to be a more intricate and complex version of that art form, in which the performer tells a humorous story in rhythmic, rhymed verse, accompanied by two sets of bamboo castanets.

Another part of the performance that has promising artistic potential is the act in which the Beijing Opera, "Sha Jia Bang," is being presented. "Sha Jia Bang" is an example of a "model play," one of the few plays that could be performed in China during the Cultural Revolution between 1966 and

If You Go...

What: Chinese Traditional Music and Dance

When: Saturday at 8 p.m.

Where: Rosse Hall

1976. Subjects for the plays came from communist activities or other related political subjects. These plays were a reformed version of the traditional Chinese drama, in which weapons such as pistols and rifles replaced the customary swords. Stage sets and costumes were also adapted to fit the new contemporary style of play. After the Cultural Revolution, model plays were banned, and it is through the performance of groups like the Ohio Chinese Arts Troupe that such materials are being re-introduced.

On the physical side, the Troupe will be performing three dance numbers, including a Dai Zu folk dance, a folk dance titled "Happy New Year" and two other solo dances. Also included will be two demonstrations of martial arts and a section devoted to acrobatics.

The diversity of the program presented by just 12 people hints at the talent and dedication involved in performing such an eclectic show. Bai said that the group consists of "both professional artists and people who have other jobs but really love art." The Department of Asian Studies collaborated with ASIA to find the Troupe, which is being funded by the Kenyon Campus Community Development Fund, whose mission statement is to "enhance student-faculty interactions outside of the classroom." KCCDF also funded a trip to Chicago's Chinatown and the Cleveland Museum of Art.

"This is an example of very good teamwork between students and staff," said Bai. "We had several planning meetings and then distributed and completed the work among ourselves."

Ted Samuel, who heads ASIA, with other ASIA members also worked to expand the celebration beyond Kenyon College by inviting student organizations from other colleges, such as Ohio Wesleyan, Denison, Wooster and Oberlin, to come to the performances.

"Hopefully, we can meet some of our peers by doing this," said Samuel. "This year is also special for Kenyon students in particular because it is the twelfth year that ASIA has been a part of the Kenyon community, and it marks the completion of a full cycle in the Chinese Zodiac."

To commemorate this event, ASIA has sent its alumni invitations to return and celebrate on Feb. 8, or to share stories about their experiences as an ASIA member.

UK's Massive Attack keeps beat going

Jazz/rap/rock group follows comeback album *Mezzanine* with another winning record

BY DAN ALPER
Music Critic

No one can deny the impact that Massive Attack, the crew from Bristol, UK, has had on music during their decade-plus run. In 1991, their debut album *Blue Lines* came out of left field to stun and wow critics and listeners alike with its potent mix of hip-hop, funk, dub, electronica and soul. *Blue Lines'* delectable grooves and chilled out vibe set the stage for the sound that was soon to be dubbed trip hop, giving rise to acts like Portishead. Tricky (who appeared on some of *Blue Lines* cuts), Morcheba and in some sense, DJ Shadow.

The grand year of 1995 saw the release of the somewhat disappointing *Protection*, an album that stood out for the group's collaboration with Everything But The Girl vocalist Tracey Thorn's ethereal vocals on the title cut. A year later, the group showed that they were unafraid to experiment and bridge new ground, turning the entire *Protection* album for a jazz and dub filled re-working by producer Mad Professor aptly titled *No Protection*.

In 1998, Massive Attack returned once again to stun the music world, showing that they still had tricks up their sleeves and that *Protection* would not stand out as the epitaph to a group that had once showed so much promise. *Mezzanine* saw the group taking a harder edge to their sound, adding fuzzy guitars and a pounding rock edge unseen on previous albums on songs like "Inertia Creeps," "Angel" and "Rising Son," among others. Mixed amidst their newfound bluntness was the beautiful gem on which

Massive Attack made their reputation: the simple, gorgeously melancholy "Teardrop," with vocals contributed by the Cocteau Twins' Elisabeth Fraser.

Now, finally, five years after their last record, Massive Attack return with *100th Window*. The pounding beats and ferocious boom bap of their collaboration with Mos Def "I Against I" from last year's *Blade II Soundtrack*—found here as an added bonus track—made many people assume that Massive Attack was mining the hard edged sound that was found on their previous album. Many assumed that *100th Window* would take the fuzzy rock grooves of *Mezzanine* and expand on them, creating a harder edged Attack sound than seen in the past. However, this is not true; the band appears content to play with variations of the formula crafted on *Mezzanine*.

With founding member Daddy Gee tending to his new child and unable to work on this album, although he promised to be back for another Massive Attack opus scheduled to be released within a year, the writing and producing of the album was left to 3D and *Mezzanine* co-producer Neil Davidge. "Future Proof," the album's opener, sounds as if it could easily have been featured on *Mezzanine*, with the pounding drums that carry the song.

Massive Attack has always placed great emphasis on vocals and harmonies to ride atop their beats, and this album is no different. Sinéad O'Connor is featured on three tracks, and her best work is turned in on "Prayer for England." Having garnered a reputation as a social activist in England,



The cover of Massive Attack's shattering new record, *100th Window*.

most recently for her outspoken protests against war in Iraq, 3D gives O'Connor a propulsive, head nodding beat on which to lament the evils of modern society and express her interest in saving the children of the future, pleading, "Let not another child die be slain / Let not another search be made in vain." With her work on this album and the excellent remix of her song "Troy" turned in by John Creamer and Stephane K last year, O'Connor is rapidly proving that she and Sarah McLachlan are two of the best fitting mergers between vocals and electronic beats.

All in all, have Massive Attack created another genre-busting, mind expanding classic? No, not really. *100th Window* shows 3D and producer Davidge simply churning out variations on the for-

mula the two of them invented with *Mezzanine*. This does not mean, however, that it is a bad album by any stretch. *100th Window* is great headphone music—light, airy and easily engaging.

However, given Massive Attack's reputation for change and adaptation, and given that they had five years to craft something new, it is surprising that they responded with something that could easily be dubbed *Mezzanine II*. The album will definitely please long time fans of the group and possibly gain some new converts, but it does not take the band much beyond previously chartered waters. I will be interested to see if the return of Daddy Gee brings about a departure from this sound and a return to the inventive, challenging ways of Massive Attack of yore.

Cliché-ridden *Final Destination 2* still promises laughs

Second effort trumps first *Final Destination* with better choreography, more scares, more Ali Larter

BY TODD DETMOLD
Film Critic

Ali Larter is so hot. She's got these pouty lips that simply scream "I was born to play characters with names like 'Clear Rivers' in bad teenage horror flicks!" Her hair is the perfect shade of dyed blonde. Oh, Ali Larter. If she spoke at Kenyon, I'd totally go to hear her talk, even in this weather.

That's right, Clear Rivers. As in, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Rivers, had a daughter, and thought that it would make sense if her name were Clear. Not Clair or Clara. Clear. But that's a name that came out of the first movie, so we can't really hold it against *Final Destination 2*.

And we shouldn't, either, because *Final Destination 2* takes the nifty premise of *Final Destination* and makes it twice the fun.

One year ago, Devon Sawa was on a field trip to France in *FD1* and he suddenly had a bad premo-

nition right before takeoff and made his circle of friends get off their plane before it left, thus escaping death when the plane lifted into the air and exploded. The group, to quote the first movie, "caused a rift in death's design!" Following this, Death stalked Devon Sawa and all of his friends, killing them off one by one in wonderful, hilarious ways.

Now, a year later, it's time for *Final Destination 2*, with an oxymoronic title and even funnier deaths. Clear has survived by locking herself in a padded room at—get this—the Sunnybrook Mental Hospital. She shows up to help Kimberly, an equally shallow hottie who might as well be "Clear Rivers 2" or maybe something like "Calm Blue Oceans." Kimberly is on a road trip with Blonde Girlfriend, Weed-addict Boyfriend and Pretty-boy Abercrombie-friend, and she has a vision of a horrible car accident that you've seen most of in the trailers. She stalls traffic to save everyone's

lives, but of course, Death is more stubborn than that.

Six or seven (un)lucky folks have caused yet another rift in Death's design, and he's going to get back at them by killing them with extra gore and creativity. In *FD1*, this led to a grim, soulless movie without humor. But now, this formula has spawned a hilarious, colorful flick, complete with killer pigeons, lacerating barbed wire flying through the air and an elevator scene ripped from Caples mythology.

The inclusion of only stock characters makes *FD2* even more enjoyable. Macho Cop pretends to run the show, even though he knows nothing about what's going on. Naïve Mother doesn't believe what's going on until Sitting Duck Child gets it, and then she has nothing left to live for, the poor woman. Female Yuppie doesn't have time to deal with Death; she has appointments to get to. Braindead Stoner thinks it's funny, and Token Black Guy runs his own



imdb.com

Ali Larter (hot) studies clues to the mystery that is *Final Destination 2*.

life, brothah, so he's not going to mess with all this. Clear Rivers doesn't even need a condescending epithet, because she already is one; I'm just surprised that they didn't end up at a cabin in the woods.

Is this movie's hilarity intentional? That, I cannot answer. But the fact is, *Final Destination* got

really boring because it took itself so seriously. *Final Destination 2* is a laugh-a-minute, and I honestly can't believe that any group of collaborators would be so pointedly stupid as to have tried to make a serious, scary horror movie and ended up with this. Also, it's really well-shot. You've seen that opening traffic wreck in the movie's trailer. Could those logs flying at the camera be any creepier? The crazy violence in this movie is so perfectly choreographed, I can't help but believe that everyone knew exactly what they were doing.

KFS PREVIEW

Monster's Ball
Friday, 8 p.m.
Higley Auditorium

The critical and popular backlash against *Monster's Ball* in the wake of Halle Berry's sincere, tearful acceptance speech at the Academy Awards was both inevitable and, more importantly, unmerited. It speaks to the same fundamental social insecurity that marked nearly all of the criticism of *Moulin Rouge*: expressions of genuine emotion make people—faux-intellectual film critics, in particular—very, very uncomfortable without some sort of ironic distance as a shield. *Monster's Ball*, at its best moments, removes all distance, ironic or otherwise, from its deeply and irrevocably tortured characters. If not quite the best film of a very strong year, *Monster's Ball* is certainly 2001's most emotionally challenging film.

The series of coincidences that brings Hank (Billy Bob Thornton, in a performance that matches the range and power of his work in *The Man Who Wasn't There*), a second-generation corrections officer and a man whose few words are largely shaped by his racist father Buck (a contemptuous Peter Boyle), and Leticia (Berry, fully earning her Best Actress Oscar with a devastating, raw performance as brave as any in recent memory) together is the stuff of Greek tragedy. Both Hank and Leticia are terrible parents—Hank constantly berates Sonny (*A Knight's Tale*'s Heath Ledger, in a surprisingly effective turn) for his weakness, while Leticia is outright abusive to her overweight son Tyrell (newcomer Coronji Calhoun)—but neither of them can cope with the sudden loss of their child. Unsure of what else to do, Hank and Leticia turn to each other for temporary solace, despite their inherent distrust and a hostile social environment.

If *Monster's Ball* was a more simple-minded, naïve film, its con-



imdb.com

Bowling for Columbine director Moore triumphantly leaves a Michigan bank that rewards its customers with a rifle when they open an account.

clusion would be some predictable apologist-liberal message about how overcoming racism is one path to personal redemption. That its actual conclusion offers no real resolution and is rooted in the sheer desperation of the two lead characters makes *Monster's Ball* a film of almost literary depth.

Six Degrees of Separation
Saturday, 8 p.m.
Higley Auditorium

Although he lost to Denzel Washington's performance as a renegade cop in *Training Day*, Will Smith was also nominated for his first Best Actor Oscar this past year, for *Ali*. While many critics hailed his portrayal of Muhammed Ali as his arrival as a "serious" actor, Smith's little-seen film debut in 1993's *Six Degrees of Separation* leaves no questions as to his genuine talent. His turn as deeply disturbed, predatory con man "Paul"—whose real name is never revealed—is simply captivating.

Adapted by writer John Guare (*The House of Blue Leaves*) from his successful play of the same title, *Six Degrees of Separation* unfolds as a series of flashbacks, as Flan and Ouisa Kittridge recount their encounter with "Paul" at a seemingly endless sequence of dinner parties and social functions that defines the

couple's well-to-do but otherwise empty lives. That their witty, hyperliterate dialogue isn't lost in the translation from stage to screen is to the credit of director Fred Schepisi (*Fierce Creatures*), who retains a skillful control of his gimmick and elicits consistently top-notch performances from his cast. Donald Sutherland (*Animal House*, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*) is appropriately smug as art-dealer Flan, and Stockard Channing (*Grease*, *The Business of Strangers*) deservedly earned an Oscar nomination for her role as Ouisa, who ultimately comes to realize that Paul's con fundamentally changed her.

Channing's work aside, *Six Degrees of Separation* is at its most engaging when Smith's performance is the focus. A montage of his transformation from street urchin to the cultured "son" of actor Sidney Poitier, all under the guidance of smitten boyfriend Anthony Michael Hall (*The Breakfast Club*), is both hilarious and an example of fine, accomplished acting. That such a noteworthy performance and such an intelligent film are overshadowed by the "Kevin Bacon" game they inspired is really quite sad.

Bowling for Columbine
Wednesday, 10:15 p.m.
Higley Auditorium

When critics refer to a film as "important," that's typically one of the hallmark signs that said film is little more than a didactic "message movie" about any one or number of social values that smug film executives in Hollywood believe most of Middle America is too stupid to figure out on its own—patronizing offerings like *Dead Man Walking* or *The Cider House Rules*, for instance. As the United States moves ever closer to war, however, it's hard to imagine a film that is legitimately more important than Michael Moore's 2002 documentary *Bowling for Columbine*, which offers a hardline examination of the underlying sources of our nation's bloodlust.

Before examining the deeper social ills that spawned America's fetishistic approach to violence, Moore opens *Bowling for Columbine* with an indictment of the United States' significantly higher rate of gun-related homicides than any other Westernized country. That he resists the urge to turn this indictment into a simple propaganda piece and somehow finds a sort of absurdist humor at its core makes *Bowling for Columbine* one of last year's "must-see" films.

As was the case with his 1989 film *Roger and Me*, Moore's skills as a true documentarian are decidedly clear throughout *Bowling for Columbine*—at one point, he actually sets a lengthy list of foreign-policy initiatives to the song "What a Wonderful World." Also, some of his tactics—the uncomfortable and unnecessary interview with Alzheimer's patient and NRA President Charlton Heston, for example—transcend mere condescension and come across as flat-out bullying. What redeems *Bowling for Columbine*, then, is the film's root in Moore's very sincere horror, outrage and concern.

—Jonathan Keefe

This Week at Premiere Theaters

11535 Upper Gilcrest Road
Mount Vernon

Movie-line: 392-2220

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Shanghai Knights | R |
| Fri-Thu | 5:00, 7:15, 9:30 |
| Sa-Su | 12:30, 2:45, 5:00 |
| | 7:15, 9:30 |
| Kangaroo Jack | PG |
| Fri-Thu | 5:00, 7:00, 9:00 |
| Sa-Su | 1:00, 3:00, 5:00 |
| | 7:00, 9:00 |
| Darkness Falls | PG-13 |
| Fri-Thu | 5:30, 7:30, 9:30 |
| Sa-Su | 1:30, 3:30, 5:30 |
| | 7:30, 9:30 |
| How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days | R |
| Fri-Thu | 4:40, 7:00, 9:20 |
| Sa-Su | 1:30, 4:40 |
| | 7:00, 9:20 |
| Just Married | PG-13 |
| Fri-Thu | 5:00, 7:10, 9:20 |
| Sa-Su | 12:40, 2:50, 5:00 |
| | 7:10, 9:20 |
| Final Destination 2 | PG-13 |
| Fri-Thu | 5:10, 7:20, 9:30 |
| Sa-Su | 12:50, 3:00, 5:10 |
| | 7:20, 9:30 |
| The Recruit | R |
| Fri-Thu | 4:50, 7:00, 9:10 |
| Sa-Su | 12:30, 2:40, 4:50 |
| | 7:00, 9:10 |
| Coming Soon: | |
| Daredevil | |
| Jungle Book 2 | |
| Old School | |
| Gods and Generals | |

Symphony to feature Kenyon soloists Hoguet '03 and Brubaker '06

BY KATY COSSE
Staff Writer

Presenting works from both classical artists and current composers, the Knox County Symphony will perform their second concert of the year this Saturday. Held at Mt. Vernon's First Presbyterian Church, James D. & Cornelia W. Ireland Professor of Music Benjamin Locke will lead the symphony's 50-plus members and four soloists in eight pieces.

Locke describes the performance as "multi-faceted," noting the world premiere of a piece by his sister, Jessica Locke. The piece honors the firefighters who died in the attack on the World Trade Center on Sept. 11. "When I heard a computerized recording of the work a few months ago, I asked her if I could perform it," said Locke. "The piece also calls for singers to recite the names of every firefighter who died. Thus, the Chamber Singers will be joining us for this performance."

The Knox County Symphony includes community residents and Kenyon students, faculty and retired faculty. Sophomore clarinet player Ellen Fulco notes that the diversity

of the group is her favorite aspect.

"There is a unique relationship formed between musicians," said Fulco, "and it is fun to share that with students and non-students alike."

Sophomore violinist Jen Underwood agreed, saying, "I like meeting people that I wouldn't meet otherwise. I go to fiddle jams, and I'm in a string quartet with retired professors."

The mix doesn't come without its obstacles, however. Dina Snow, a Mount Vernon resident, has been playing with the symphony for over 15 years and is currently the concertmaster. "It makes for a fun mix, but it is a challenge to have such different personalities every year," said Snow. "Sometimes students come in with a very different background and don't understand the community orchestra mindset."

Underwood agreed, saying, "Sometimes it's a challenge, but at the same time, there are some excellent musicians who play in non-traditional ways—for example, there are a ton of secret bluegrass fiddlers in the violin sections."

Fulco acknowledged the challenging aspects of the ensemble, saying, "It is always difficult to refine

If You Go...

What: Knox County
Symphony

When: Sunday, 8:15 p.m.

Where: First Presbyterian
Church, Mt. Vernon

things when you only meet once a week ... also the chimes made this crazy squeaking noise for a few rehearsals. That was funny, though."

Despite some rehearsal mishaps, Snow maintains her confidence in the group's abilities. "Skill levels also vary from year to year. This year we have such an incredible level of talent throughout the orchestra," she said. "It kind of makes me nervous sometimes, but as long as we learn to respect each other, it's fun."

In addition to the guest appearance by the Chamber Singers, the symphony will be joined by both Kenyon and Mount Vernon students in the concert, all winners at the recent Young Musicians' competition. Senior Ramsay Hoguet, a music and

philosophy major, won first place in the collegiate division with Carl Maria von Weber's "Concertino for Clarinet." He has played clarinet since he was 13 and was a member of the symphony last year.

"The only real difficulty," said Hoguet, "is with memorization. I know the piece extremely well at this point ... but when I am rehearsing or performing it I can get a little bit nervous." Despite the bouts of stage fright, he said, "I plan to play perfectly."

The other Kenyon soloist, Jenna Brubaker, a pre-med first-year, is playing violin with the symphony in Edouard Lalo's "Symphonie Espagnole." She played the piece for the Young Musicians' Competition, tying for second place in the collegiate division. "It's a very emotional and demanding piece," Brubaker said. "I love its combination of lyrical melodies and technical passages. Practicing and working up this piece has taken many, many hours of hard work, but it'll be worth it when the concert rolls around."

Both soloists have been rehearsing extensively with the symphony

and welcome the experience.

"I really like to have the orchestra playing behind me," said Hoguet. "It gives the whole piece a powerful, rich sound. Plus it is a bit of an opportunity for all that time spent practicing to really pay off."

The other soloists are Kelly Yerxa and Mark A. Morrison, performing Johann Strauss Jr.'s "Orlofsky's Chacun à son gout" and Edouard Lalo's "Vainement ma bien aimée," respectively. Yerxa, a senior at Mount Vernon High School, won first place in the competition's high school division. Morrison, a music major at the Mount Vernon Nazarene University, tied for second place in the collegiate division. This will be Morrison's second time performing with the symphony.

Nearly a year's worth of Monday night rehearsals at Rosse Hall are about to pay off for the symphony, and all seem to be looking forward to the concert. "There's practicing endless hours by yourself, and then there's playing with others through chamber groups or orchestras," said Brubaker. "It's a completely different, rewarding experience."

A&E BRIEFS

Maxwell to read poetry, sans Beatniks

Poet Glyn Maxwell, winner of the E.M. Forster Prize from the American Academy of Arts and Letters and the Somerset Maugham Prize, will read from his books on Sunday at 7:30 p.m. in Peirce Lounge.

Originally from England, Maxwell graduated from both Oxford University and Boston University, and has penned over a dozen books of poetry, fiction and drama. In addition, Maxwell has adapted a play for England's Royal Shakespeare Company.

Maxwell will read primarily from his award winning book of poetry, *Tale of the Mayor's Son*.

Twelve-year French horn vet to give recital

Junior Laura Koss will be presenting a junior French horn recital in Brandt Hall Feb. 9 at 7 p.m. Koss, who has played French horn for 12 years, is currently a member of the Symphonic Wind Ensemble.

With practices beginning at 8 a.m., Koss said she had a hard time developing low notes because her "face, and especially lips, were still not quite functioning." Koss also at times had to transpose her music from piano sheet music, which resulted, as she said, "in some interesting page turns."

Koss, who is under the instruction of Adjunct Instructor of Music Lorree Cummings, will be playing a variety of pieces, including Louis Piantoni's "Air De Chasse," Samuel Adler's "Sonata movements III and II," portions of Franz Strauss' "Opus 8 Concerto" and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "K. 412 Concerto No. 1 in D major." She will be accompanied by Adjunct Instructor of Music Patricia Pelfrey.

Haney to play English-themed oboe tunes

Music major Sarah Haney will be presenting her senior oboe recital Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. in Brandt Recital Hall. Haney, who has been playing for seven years, is under the instruction of Adjunct Instructor of Bailey Sorton.

"English music is my theme of sorts," said Haney, who will be playing several 20th century pieces: "Sonatina" by Malcolm Arnold, "Seven Bagatelles" by Gordon Jacob and "Sonatina" by Lennox Berkeley. Also included will be Baroque works such as "Sonata in G Minor" by George Frideric Handel, who Haney admits is "not technically English, but about as close as a German can get," and "Concerto in E" by Robert Woodcock.

Haney will be accompanied by Lois Brehm on both piano and harpsichord, and has been casually rehearsing for this recital for about a year.

"The more intense five hours a day, seven days a week practicing started in the last two or three weeks," said Haney, "but since it's my senior project, I suppose it would be kind of essential to graduation, wouldn't it?"

Haney, who performed a sophomore recital in lieu of the more regularly performed junior recital due to a study abroad program, will now be returning to the stage for one of the final exercises of her senior year. She looks at it fondly. "The 'Lennox Berkeley Sonatina' is my favorite oboe piece of all time, so I'll enjoy having a chance to perform it."

I ♥ BOOKS



Jon Krakauer
Into the Wild, 207 pp.
Anchor Press

BY ANDY NEILSEN
A&E Editor

In April 1992 a young man from a well-to-do family hitchhiked to Alaska and walked alone into the wilderness north of Mt. McKinley. His name was Christopher Johnson McCandless. He had given \$25,000 in savings to charity, abandoned his car and most of his possessions, burned all the cash in his wallet and invented a new life for himself. Four months later, his decomposed body was found by a moose hunter...

Jon Krakauer's *Into the Wild* is one of the most exciting and moving books I've ever read. Its pace is clipping, its writing fluid and furious at times and its research and the resulting emotional attachment to the subject are both striking to say the least.

Krakauer, a journalist, photographer and author, also wrote the bestseller *Into Thin Air*, the story of a team of climbers who scaled Everest. Written a little over a year before that, *Into the Wild* shows the same flair for adventure, reverence of wild beauty and passion for dangerous expeditions.

Krakauer's career as a journalist, more specifically as a writer for *Outside* magazine, led him to Chris McCandless' story. The initial feature for *Outside*, a scant few pages

long, did not sate Krakauer's need to discover why a wealthy if disillusioned, intelligent and ambitious young man would seemingly guarantee an untimely end to his life. What unfolds is an intense portrait of youthful discontent mingled with an aggressive passion for nature and a relentlessly daring search for what was real in life. The drive with which McCandless undertakes his search for meaning is so impressive that many people have read this book in just a day.

Krakauer untangles McCandless' hitchhiking odyssey from east coast to west coast, from an affluent Annapolis suburban family with whom McCandless broke ties to a solo kayaking expedition in the Gulf of California and from an adoptive father in Nevada to a death from weakness and starvation in the Alaskan wilderness. As Jim Gallien—an Alaskan that delivered McCandless to the trailhead of the Stampede Trail at the edge of Denali National Park—remembered, "There was just no talking the guy out of it. He was determined. Real gung-ho. The word that comes to my mind is excited. He couldn't wait to get out there and get started."

What is most heartbreaking about *Into the Wild* is not exactly McCandless' death, but rather the products of his journey. Krakauer tracked down the friends that McCandless had made in his sojourn in the west, finding many who knew McCandless only when they picked him up as a hitchhiker and the short two or three hour ride they had with him. Nearly every person that had contact with him, some as much as two weeks while he lived near or with them, reported amazement at his kindness, ambition, humility and above all, his mule-ish independence. Even with such short encounters, many of the interviewed

are brought to tears.

McCandless all the while told everyone, "I'm absolutely positive that I won't run into anything out there that I can't handle."

Krakauer also has extensive interviews with McCandless' estranged family, especially with his sister, who was the last family member to know about McCandless' whereabouts before he set off on his year long road trip that eventually landed him in Alaska.

What makes this book a pleasure to read is Krakauer's skillful weaving of McCandless' past and present with Krakauer's own considerable outdoor experience, as well as the recollections of other climbers and writers. Every chapter begins with a beautifully timed and prophetic quote from writers like Jack London and Henry David Thoreau to famous adventurers of yore like John Muir. Indeed, it is Krakauer's flowing and lyrical narrative style that at once drive and contribute to McCandless' physical and philosophical quest, and portrays in three dimensions his love of the aesthetic and the austere in the wilderness of the United States.

Krakauer's treatment of the McCandless saga artfully inserts numerous and challenging open questions to any reader. What is it about solo adventures that make life more real? Did the cost of McCandless' adventure outweigh his gains? Most challengingly, Krakauer demands that the reader see McCandless neither as a nut nor a prophet of purity, but as a more complicated representation of our own desires for truth in life.

So, do you ♥ books? Join the club! It's easy! It's do it yourself! Just read the reviews. If you like it, read the book with your friends and discuss. A book you'd like to see? Email neilsena or warneri. Please read, it's for the books.

THE KENYON COLLEGIAN

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Things Nugent should know about us

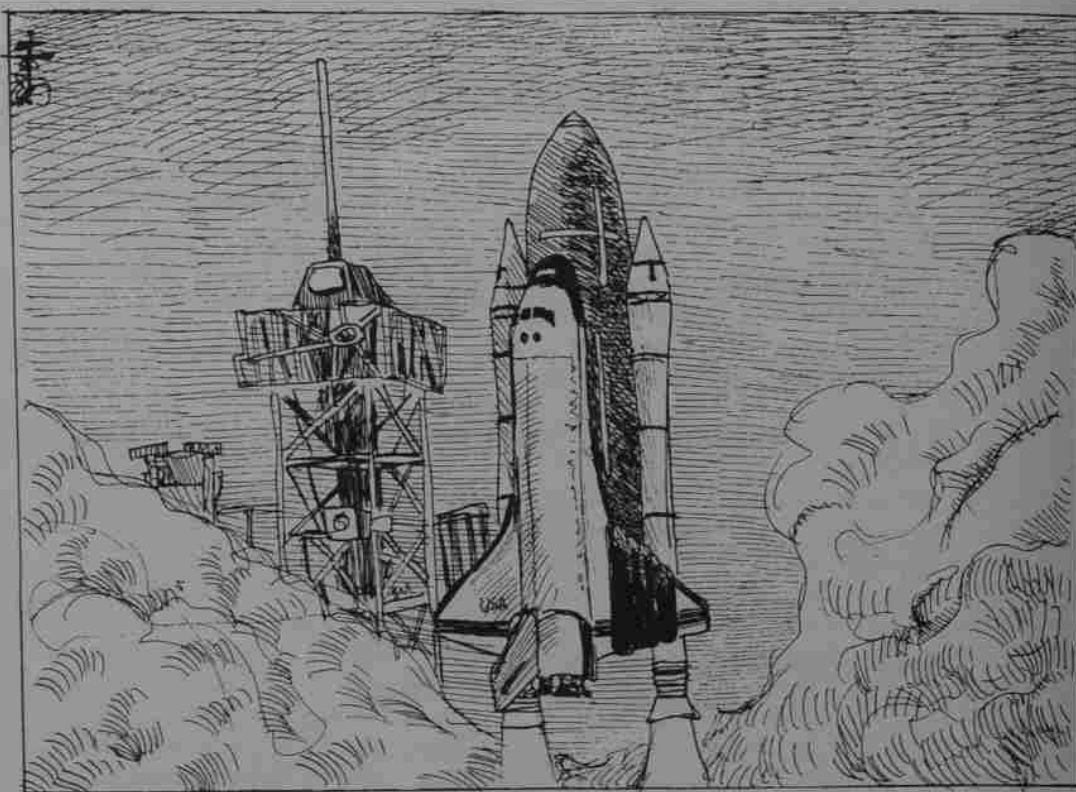
This week, Kenyon was introduced to our new president-elect, S. Georgia Nugent. However, President-Elect Nugent has admitted she knows little about campus life here on the Hill and is very much looking forward to getting to know everyone here. That being considered, we think that it is important to begin to introduce Nugent to the quirks that make Gambier the place that we know and love. So here are the Gambier-isms, the Kenyon-isms, that will help her begin to know what kind of place she will be leading in the near future:

- Student organizations are a big part of campus life. Most students belong to at least one, and a select few seem to head up all of them on campus. These people will always be willing to take on more responsibility, while those that are not involved in any organizations never have any time to help out.
- The members of those organizations form unlikely bonds that come in handy at the strangest times. For example, it is not unusual to see members of the MUN team or Gospel Choir acting as bodyguards to members of the Ballroom Dance Club when their audience gets out of hand.
- According to Admissions, Kenyon students visit the bookstore an average of seven times a day. Therefore, if you want to meet students and see where they spend all of their time, you should probably hang out there—or return repeatedly.
- When students are not visiting the bookstore multiple times (or doing other important things, like going to class), they are often chained to their computers, wading through countless allstus about things like OSU football or losing their sweater—again.
- Don't worry if you see angels floating above campus—they're tethered to the ground.
- It's okay, we don't really know what the thing on the science quad is supposed to be either.
- Watch out for the bats in Cromwell. Ask Acting President Sharp to tell you stories about hitting them down the hallway with his tennis racket.
- Don't try to shoo away the crows that seem to be nesting on top of your office in Ransom Hall—we've tried. They don't seem to be going anywhere.
- In spite of the fact that some people feel the need to burn copies of the *Collegian* and the *Observer*, Kenyon really is a place where we support the freedom of the press.
- You will need to invest in a BFEC Nalgene bottle if you want to fit in here. Everyone has one, and they're great for both keeping your thirst quenched and ensuing that you will often bond with members of the community during frequent trips to the restroom.
- Beware the Shade Tree Commission. They have full authority over which of your trees are allowed to remain standing.
- The question everyone in Knox County will want to know: do you support deer birth control? (Oh, and don't forget to wear bright colors when you run on the Gap Trail during hunting season.)
- Be prepared to use fun acronyms like FRA, GAC, ZAP, EMU, ARSE, USAS, SOMASA, KMASA or EEP!
- Whatever you do, if you see a Siberian Tiger in Gambier, don't try to pet it.

REACHING THE COLLEGIAN

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The opinion page is a space for members of the community to discuss issues relevant to the campus and the world at large. The opinions expressed on this page belong only to the writer. Columns and letters to the editors do not reflect the opinions of the Kenyon Collegian staff. All members of the community are welcome to express opinions through a letter to the editors. The Kenyon Collegian reserves the right to edit all letters submitted for length and clarity. The Collegian cannot accept anonymous or pseudonymous letters. Letters must be signed by individuals, not organizations, and must be 200 words or less. Letters must also be received no later than the Tuesday prior to publication. The Kenyon Collegian prints as many letters as possible each week subject to space, interest and appropriateness. Members of the editorial board reserve the right to reject any submission. The views expressed in the paper do not necessarily reflect the views of Kenyon College.



Phil Hands

Alcohol cannot conceal or excuse cruelty

BY MIKE LUDDERS
 Opinions Page Editor

Three inches of air, and there would have been an ambulance. She literally could have died and had no idea. She was trashed, her attention who-knows-where as the disciplined dancer's leg kicked out, full extension, the tip of her stiletto heel stopping three inches behind the base of the girl's neck; the weakest point in the skull.

He was a big man, kicking hard, with full follow-through; the back of his chiseled wing tips flying out at the head level of five girls, who fled back in fear, while he laughed at them and smiled dumbly at the attention he was getting. Two near misses, missed by their inebriated initiators, in the general melee of the Ballroom Phling fiasco.

12:30 a.m. last Sunday, this was the great "yeah Kenyon" moment wherein the DJs, the tireless student Phling committee, the general celebrants, and Kenyon's enormously talented student-run Ballroom Dancesport Team made good on a month of careful planning and hard work, putting up a spectacular *Moulin Rouge* stage show for the entertainment of their friends and fellows.

Then eight giggling, stumbling people ran into the middle of the cleared floor. Some just walking through the three tight lines of superenergized flailing limbs while others, audaciously, unbelievably, went to knock performers out of the way and dance with their partners. The whole thing was stopped, near-fistfights pulled apart, and twenty or so Kenyon students took up the task of forming a human wall to forcibly keep Kenyon students from

aggressively endangering Kenyon students. The performance was then allowed to go on, allowed to be spectacular, while the shoving, grabbing, jostling and attempts at breakthrough continued.

This is the story of a great work of generosity and talent from a great deal of the student body and of a tiny brood of whining, confused, aggressive children who almost wrecked it all, almost hurt a lot of people, and at no point gave a damn. They wanted to dance. They wanted to dance *there*. Now. So they did.

The only difference between this desire-action relationship and that of a sociopath, rapist or serial killer, is that these kind of folks live the credo fully, honestly and soberly.

This credo takes volumes to sum up in psychology literature, but it sounds like this: "I do not care about you. I do not acknowledge you. I am doing what feels good. Does it scare you? Does it hurt? That's funny."

Alcohol does not do this.

Alcohol has always been celebratory, always communal. The author of this column is not at all unfriendly to joining in a toast, or six, when they are called. At its natural best, to employ our favorite party beverages bequeaths a bond between friends and celebrants. They cheer, "We will share this. We will let go a bit. We will laugh ridiculously, smile openly, look out for one another and trust each other dearly. *Sláinte*." This is the exact opposite of the sociopathic credo of the solo drunk above.

Anyone who imbibes, who imbibes with others, or who grows up in a big Catholic family (or a Jewish one, I've been told) knows

this: the humors of drink, whether one rides them to 'pleasant,' 'off-balance,' "I am not yelling," 'too much' or 'So help me, ow, entirely too much...' they *never* take away one's ability to think and to choose. Nor do they plant alien thoughts into the mind, making one desire that which they do not desire sober. The only modifying effect it has is to dull the shame reflex and dampen self-awareness.

The author must draw the upsetting conclusion from this that there are many people on this campus whose only reason for being considerate, for not violating people, is that they are aware somebody is watching. Worse, somewhere along the way we all silently agreed to give these people a blanket, easily engaged chemical excuse for ducking their human obligations. The bottle has become for some the ultimate Community Chance card; a get-away pass, granting access to a blind eye turned in the face of dangerous, self-absorbed attacks on common decency.

We should reject this lie in all its forms. When we hold each other to personal responsibility, we take major steps toward creating a closer, safer, more trusting community, sober or otherwise. The alternative is to continue to accept the defamation of our campus, the mocking of those who give back to the community, and the occasional night of abuse, endangerment and assault...and shrug it all off with the word "drunk."

Some advice to those who attacked a lot of people's friends last weekend: start drinking alone. You will be safe in the company of the only person sure to buy your cop-out; your protective delusion.

This is a free house. Raise a racket in the rafters.

collegian@kenyon.edu

Answer to 'leadership' challenge; State of Union breaks promises

BY NICK KWIEK
Guest Columnist

In last week's *Collegian*, Staff Columnist Robert Arkell gave a response to President Bush's State of the Union Address, which the President delivered before Congress last Tuesday night. I was disappointed to find that Arkell did not mention the Address until the second of his five columns and mentioned no substance of the Address until the fifth.

In the mean, he compared Alcibiades to Nero to V.I. Lenin to Adolf Hitler to Bill Clinton. His point: Americans have forgotten history and chosen to follow men for their image over their character. The subtitle of his column was "American leadership demands substance over style and genuine conviction over popular appeal." His column could have used a healthier serving of substance. How many times will I have to hear the name Monica Lewinsky when I criticize the foreign policy of a Republican administration?

What Arkell demonstrates is a general inability and distaste among supporters of the Bush Administration's policies to engage that essential substance. Instead, Arkell and his compatriots shout buzzwords that evoke genuine conviction and, when backed into a corner, mutter contrasts with that sleazy Democrat who had an affair with an intern. That genuine conviction seldom really exists.

In the 2000 campaign, among then-Governor—of Arkell's home state of Texas—Bush's campaign promises was to minimize foreign deployment of the U.S. military and absolutely not engage in any form of nation building. Now, in 2003, he spends half of his State of the Union praising the nation building efforts of the United States military in Afghanistan and the War on Terrorism.

The remainder of the President's speech set forth four goals: economy, health care, energy independence and the environment and compassion. On the economy, the President scheduled

tax cuts planned for years in the future to take effect this year. It was not a bad idea, until he suggested more refund checks. Many Americans were shocked two years ago when the government sent out \$600 tax refund checks in the summer, then added \$600 to their taxes the following April. On health care, the President said nothing new; even that scoundrel Bill Clinton wanted affordable health care and prescription drugs for all.

The Administration has been talking about energy independence forever, but the suggestion of hydrogen cars was a 180-degree about-face from Bush's campaign trail politics. In 2000, when Al Gore suggested such things, Bush and his supporters would have none of it. Now President Bush is committing 1.2 billion to research hydrogen powered cars. On this point,

I will stand with Mr. Arkell in lauding President Bush for breaking with party politics and promoting a policy that is truly good for America—and the rest of the world, for that matter.

Compassionate Conservatism was the great paradox of the last presidential election. His first two initiatives, mentors for children with incarcerated parents and drug rehab, fully realize this promise. However, if Americans are as great as President Bush suggests, we will not need \$450 million from the government to mentor children. Drug rehabilitation, if the federal government is going to be so cheap, should be left to the states and municipalities. President Bush proposed only \$2000 per person in need for three years of rehab; they might as well spend it on crack, because it is not going to get them very far either

way.

According to the President, treatment cost for AIDS has gone from \$12,000 to \$300 per year. With 30 million people in Africa with AIDS, this price-drop makes possible an opportunity to do some good. With an outstretched hand holding \$15 billion, President Bush has truly demonstrated capitalist conservative compassion.

Where Arkell got it wrong, and what really troubles me, is that Bush did not part with his party, he parted with his people. He promised his constituents policies in 2000 that he has now abandoned. He has betrayed his voters. Being popular with the electorate is not evil, as Arkell suggests, lying to the electorate is. Perhaps Mr. Bush prefers to "transform America, one heart and one soul at a time," rather than be held accountable to it.

More communication, much less contact?

BY MATT CASS
Guest Columnist

True correspondence has become underappreciated. Not too long ago, we used to call, write or visit people outside of our immediate inner circle about once every other few days to every other week. Today those couple of days have turned into weeks, and those weeks have turned into months. The days of calling someone, writing someone, or visiting someone "just for the hell of it" are long gone. These days, were too busy checking our e-mail, talking on instant messenger, or listening to our voice mails. Yet, when you stop and think about it in reality, you're not really checking your email, but deleting your junk mail. You're not just listening to your voice mail, but skimming through them to discover if there's anything important to hear.

Consider this hypothetical situation: you're in a crowded hallway, it's a busy day in the middle of the week and upon reaching your room and checking your voice mail, you discover that you have three (yes, three!!) new messages. Now, in listening to them, you discover that the first is from your mom "just calling to say hi," so you immediately skip over it and onto the second one, which is from your friend. However, you wound up seeing him on the way back to your room, so you skip over that one, and so on... When you stop and actually think about how you "listen" to your voice mail messages, you're not really listening to them at all—you're skimming.

The problem becomes people are not communicating as sincerely as they used to. We used to mean it when we ended our letters "Sincerely," "Talk, regardless of the way we do it, has definitely gotten cheap.

Want another example of how communication is changing? There is a cute little invention favorably known as "IM": a favorite of college kids "on the go." Instant messenger is a high-tech form of your high school cafeteria: you get to see who's around, what they're doing and if they are or aren't really in the mood to talk to you. And what gets me—and I'm just as guilty as anyone—is that its huge here at Kenyon. Like Kenyon's not small enough to begin with, that after leav-

ing the library or the dining hall, students go back to their rooms to see which of their friends is "on-line" and if he or she wants to "chat." Personally, if I just saw you in Peirce, chances are that I'm not gonna want to talk to you five minutes down the road. Even I did forget to tell you something, I'd probably wait till I saw you again. Or even better, I'd e-mail it to you.

While I have openly admitted that I am a culprit of much of what's been said, I would seriously contemplate strangling the person at AOL who invented Instant Messenger. What was so bad about e-mail? Was it not fast enough for this person? Were they not getting enough? Cause if they weren't, then I could definitely lend him a good deal of the crap I get in my inbox.

I say all of this in such a tone because all of these things in my opinion are the devil of communication. Most of the time, whether its over IM, e-mail or a text message, you can't see the person, you can't tell if they're being serious or not, and half the time, you're not even speaking in complete sentences—you're speaking in code.

I reference a fellow student. Recently, she met this guy over break, and when she got back to school, there was a letter from him waiting for her

at the post office. Those who heard about this were completely blown away by the gesture. In other words, most of the few people who knew of it were touched. With the "sophistication" of technology like e-mail, instant messenger and cell phones, no one really feels the need to go out of their way.

My point is, we're surprised these days when we receive such simple things such as letters, postcards, or random long-distance phone calls. That's what gets me the most: the fact that in reality, such gestures of communication probably take about 10-30 minutes. A whole half hour! It seems the way we communicate on the whole has been cheapened, cut off and cut short by more expensive ways to communicate poorly. You know how much a stamp costs? 39 cents.

Do me a favor, the next time you go to check your e-mail, call someone on a cell phone or bling someone on your instant messenger: stop yourself be ashamed of yourself and then slap yourself. After you've done that, pick up your phone and call your mother, father, or whoever it is who cleans your cage—just to say hi.

Rosen ruminates alone

BY ZACK ROSEN
Staff Columnist

At a small community such as Kenyon, germs (like rumors) spread quickly. Several of my hall mates became sick over a several day period, but for some foolhardy reason I did not expect it to reach me.

The first person informed of my illness was a member of the maintenance staff who found me hugging the toilet at 7:30 a.m. I appreciated her sympathetic interjection that "being sick sucks." My friends were very helpful, but they had to go to class eventually. I was soon left alone in my room, sipping Sprite at fifteen minute intervals and pondering why the fetal position felt so right. I called four nuclear Rosens and not one picked up their phone. I spent the rest of the afternoon in bed with Jane Eyre, and she is not as fun a bedfellow as one might think.

Living mostly on my own, in this purple limbo between future and past, I still marvel at the amount of freedom I have. As long as retain respectable grades and don't get caught drinking, I have free reign over a wealth of opportunities. However, with this freedom comes responsibility, and with responsibility comes a specific solitude. I now know that to be in college or the real world is to be inherently, unavoidably alone. My faculty advisor has her own classes to teach; my RA is mere months older than I am and my friends all have their own affairs to worry about. My problems remain just that—my own.

This is not an entirely bad thing. Soon, for the first time in our lives, we will be able to just live for ourselves. Not for grades, not for transcripts, but actually have jobs without homework and spend our evening as we please.

However, I am still in college, and it is unfortunate that I had to stumble upon this epiphany in the midst of pledge week. Though I decided not to pledge for a host of reasons, I still have many friends who

did. Whether or not they start out as the "right" kind of guy for the fraternity they are in, they will graduate with a designation they get to keep for life. Every embarrassing pledge event I witness on campus reminds me of this mix of satisfaction and regret.

Everyone at this school has their something going on and it seems as if we all stick with our own. Swimmers hang out with swimmers, Betas with Betas. There is even a small but growing population I see here that reminds me of high school—a crowd of exclusive, attractive people who I usually only see with each other. It is this that bothers me the most. Is there a legitimate "popular crowd" here or have my lack of attachments led me to see exclusivity where there is solidarity?

We all belong to various groups here and there is no one who can escape it. Even the independents form a sort of subset—people who are bound by their lack of obligations. No matter how many people we may surround ourselves with, though, we still exist autonomously and it will continue to be this way. It is indeed possible to be alone while surrounded by people... but this is often a good thing.

All of us must learn to be their own person in a larger context of similar individuals. We must all find our way to be seen, whether it be sticking your neck out or keeping it in. At the end of the day, though, you will be left only with yourself, and if you are happy with your company than your time here will not have been for nothing.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Phling dissapoints alum

Editor,

Only seven years ago, Phling was a very different affair. Folks showed up for an evening of class and made a strong attempt at sophistication. Even some professors would put on tie and tails and mingle, amused by how well their students could clean up. And there were a few who overindulged and made themselves obnoxious.

But those wasted individuals stood out. Gross intoxication was not the norm; folks had more than enough opportunity to go that route every other weekend.

This past Saturday evening, on the other hand, was a drunken embarrassment. When did shoving become part of polite society? Who said you could smoke on the dance floor? Who thought it was a good idea to disrupt a floor show, to menace and provoke the performers? And especially troubling, who was dealing out those roofies?

Some may suspect that my memory lies, that Phling has always been a black tie riot. Sadly, to the contrary, my instinctive bias against drunken debauchery has waned with time. I had a sublime time at my first Phling. If my first Phling had been anything like what I witnessed this past weekend, I would not have returned.

—Dan Nickerson '00

Yamada talks imperialism, world politics and travel

Japanese exchange student leaves big city life in Tokyo and adapts easily to a small town college

BY MIKA BACHMAHA AND
ISANKYA KODITHUWAKKU
Collegian Staff

Maybe you noticed the handsome Japanese man in a kimono at Phling. This was none other than Kenyon's only Japanese student, Satoshi Yamada. Yamada is studying here for one year on an exchange program between his school and Kenyon.

"Kenyon College is one of the sister schools of Kyushu University, which is my school back in Japan," said Yamada. "So we have this exchange program between the two schools... Well, actually, it's not really an exchange since I have never heard about Kenyon students coming to Kyushu. Not a lot of our students want to study abroad either, which is only for the better, since it's not that hard to get into an exchange program for those who want to go."

Yamada was one of the few willing to take the risk. "My parents wanted me to get a good education abroad," he explained. "So they were supportive of the decision. Plus, my elder sister studied in an American high school in Providence, R.I., so it was not something completely new for them."

Asked whether he gets home-



Amy Gallese

Satoshi Yamada has spent his time in the U.S. traveling and talking politics.

sick often, Yamada shook his head. "I left home two years ago for the university," he said. "So I am used to being away."

The selection process for becoming an exchange student was not too difficult for him. "I had to take TOEFL [Test of English as a Foreign Language], and I was good to go."

"Well, theoretically I was," he added, "since I received my I-20 [a form necessary for foreigners to obtain a student visa] two weeks before I was supposed to leave for Kenyon. My visa was

very delayed, and I finally received it a day before my trip."

Yamada said that he decided to leave Tokyo, his hometown and Japan's capital, for a university in a rural area because he wanted to try living on his own.

"The girls in Kyushu are very cute, the education is good and not as expensive as in private schools and the food is cheap and good," he added.

"Students here study a lot more than Japanese students," he said comparing Kenyon to Japanese colleges. "Japanese students

spend a lot of their time working and making money. Of course there are some who seriously study. They study very hard to enter the universities so after that, they don't do too much hard work."

Satoshi is planning on becoming a computer science major. "There are a lot of prerequisites, though, so all I have been studying so far is mostly math. In the next two years, I will concentrate in actual computer science."

Among other things, Satoshi is interested in modern technologies and would love to study it in the U.S. "I am thinking about transferring to a college in the States. But I don't think it will be Kenyon College, though. The tuition is too expensive."

"The other reason is that I don't think Kenyon will really consider me as a full-time student," he continued. "I wasn't a very good student at my college in Japan. I was crazy and was like all those other students I talked about. I had my hair dyed blonde and was always working and never in class. My grades were very bad. So I don't think this school will take me full-time."

Nevertheless, Yamada likes it here. "I don't think Kenyon is a typical American college and I like it," he explained. "I feel comfortable here."

This semester, he is taking American studies, astronomy, biology and percussion lessons. He has joined the Kazookestra and sometimes also plays club soccer, which he loves. He is a fan of the Japanese national soccer team.

"I signed up for the Activists United group as well," he said, "but I do not agree with their sweatshops position and that's why I don't do much with the group." Back in Japan, Yamada played tennis at his university and was a captain of the team. Besides sports, Yamada also had a number of part-time jobs while a student at Kyushu.

The next time that Yamada sees his family will be this June. "Either I will go back home, or they will come to the States for vacation," he said. "My family is not big at all. It's just my parents, my sister and me." Yamada's father is an assistant professor, his mother is a teacher in an elementary school and his sister, even though she went to high school in the U.S., now lives and works in Japan.

His family has traveled to the States four times on vacation, so he isn't altogether new to the country. He has also traveled through Europe, visiting London, Paris and Rome.

"I love traveling and would like to do more of it in the future." This explains why Yamada did some traveling over Christmas break. He went to Chicago, Michigan and San Francisco.

"I liked Chicago very much," he said. "While I was there I basically walked, ate, walked, ate,

walked, ate. I went to see this very tall building, and it had snowed in the morning and it had turned to ice. It all fell off the building, and it was very scary. I also went to watch an NBA game while I was there, and the Chicago Bulls lost. I walked so much that my body was aching every day," he said. "But I stayed in a hostel and made many international friends there."

"Then I went to Michigan to visit my friend Dan [Herrick '05]," he continued. "Dan was very nice. He was always in the kitchen cooking bread or something else for me. It was a very pretty, rural town. Dan took me around and basically showed me his everyday life; you know, he took me to the gym and shopping. His family was very pretty, just like him."

"It was very warm in San Francisco," he said about this trip to the west coast. "The food was very expensive so I just stayed in Chinatown and walked. I stayed with my friend from Japan who's a Sushi cook at this very expensive restaurant. A lot of celebrities and other rich people come there, and he always talked about the crazy things they did."

Asked about his future plans, Yamada had to think for a while. "You mean like family and stuff?" he asked. "Well, I do want to get married some day and have three kids."

As to his career plans, Satoshi wants to own his own company some day. "I would love to work with information technologies," he said.

Yamada also talked a bit about world politics and Japan's relationship with the United States. "After World War II, Japan was basically like America's child, because America kept Japan from nuclear bombs and communism," he said. "But personally I can't agree with U.S. foreign policy. It's very complex; I can't say everything I feel about it here. I think that maybe we [Japan] should be more active [in world affairs] and resist U.S. policy. Maybe show our opinions."

He also spoke about the imperial system in Japan. "Generally, people like Emperor Akihito," he said. "It's obvious that he's very clever and very self-conscious. Unlike the British royal family of nowadays, the Japanese imperial family live in very strict circumstances. Some people say that imperialism should be abolished but I think it's a very foolish idea because I love them. You can say I'm very nationalist, I guess," he concluded with a laugh.

"So far I have had a great experience in the states," Yamada said. "I respect the American culture—there are so many good aspects to it, and the social structure is very different to Japan's."

Asked how he liked it here, Yamada replied, "Sometimes I love it, sometimes I hate it. It's a crazy country, right?"

THE SOCIAL SCENE

Phling Weekend is one of Kenyon's premier party weekends, and by party weekend I mean party night since even with Summer Send-Off the party is a single serving of fun. In that respect it was no surprise that Friday night, or as the annoying Phling people would say Phriday night, didn't hold many activities, as most were gearing up for the main event on Saturday. The school sponsors the Karaoke competition in Gund every year to try to even out the imbalance of weekend activities, but for most it is usually just something to pass through a couple of times. It's mainly a time for people to laugh at those who want to show that they were good enough to be in an *acapella* group damnit and those who are in groups to show that friends shouldn't let friends drink and sing. After passing through the show, New Apartments was the next stop that had things going on this night, as something more radical than delicious Peirce food surfaced: a registered apartment party. Fearing that this would be one big math comps celebration or something of the sort, it was nice to see that this was not the case and not only were a lot of people present, but everyone seemed to be having fun. However, just when you thought it was safe to sit on a couch at a party, all of the sudden an overhead lamp above a particular couch dwelling partier fell on this said partier in an act more random than the Ballroom dancers at Phling. Oh, we'll get to that later. The whole scene reminded me of a Wal-Mart commercial in which the little yellow smiley face icon urges customers to watch out for falling prices. Unfortunately for this partier, the price to be paid was stitches. In an uncanny fashion this didn't seem to slow down the party or the night as people still stayed after the event and later a giant snowball fight erupted. Like everything at Kenyon, of course, people took this frozen water sport too far and fights began to ensue, but for about 15 minutes at least it could have been on the admissions video in its entire bucolic splendor.

The next night provided a less natural setting for fun as partiers went to their respective pre-parties in order to survive the sobering effect of seeing the entire school for possibly four hours. The band in the Great Hall was a repeat from last year, but that didn't stop partiers from enjoying the show as the band did notorious songs such as "Back that (bleep) up" and the ever-favorite "Survivor." On a side note, do they play weddings? ... Matrimony aside, Upper Dempsey's '80s band also attracted a following; however I felt like they take breaks every other song. I mean I realize we are on a hill, but not enough for that kind of repertory necessity, right? Going downstairs to the trance room caused me to go back upstairs in that there was no one down there and also it reminded me too much of a middle school dance with glow sticks and a serious DJ. Coming up from Lower Dempsey into the lounge it was like some weird zombie slumber party, where everyone was just so engrossed in this movie that they probably spilled Sprite on and don't give a damn about on regular occasions, but because of too many drinks suddenly it is the new Star Wars flick. As if things couldn't get any weirder, enter the Ballroom Dancers. In a move more awkward than the evil playground looking area in front of Rosse, the Ballroom dancers formed a giant circle in the middle of the Great Hall and had dancers do their rendition of "Lady Marmalade." At first I thought I was witnessing some sort of *Grease* fight or "Beat it" video. However, when someone told me that it was a Ballroom Dance performance, I thought I had gone to the wrong Phling, in hindsight now I know that I just had gone to the wrong school. My friends and I tried to keep dancing but to no avail, it was like if you would be at a speaker in Rosse and the Debate team would get up in the middle of the speaker and hold hands in the middle and have their own debate, telling others to just watch. Luckily J.D. Kurrent, the band performing, cut them off eventually, but still it goes down as being more weird than using yogurt in Pan-Geos. All in all, expect for the weird ending, this *Moulin Rouge* showing was Phun. Until then, though, if you are thinking of having a party, it better be good, because you never know, I might be there. So, work hard, play hard and see you next weekend.

Kenyon still literary, proves new poetry chapbook

Students of Vassar College join hands with Kenyon to publish chapbook series featuring student work

BY ROBBIE KETCHAM
Editor-in-Chief

"A tradition must breathe to live," said Professor of English Paul Kane with Vassar College in New York. "It's fine to stand on the shoulders of giants—it makes for a wonderful view—but if you want to walk on your own two feet, you have to climb down and make your own way."

Sentiments such as Kane's have been often echoed through the halls and hillsides of Kenyon College. In 1997, Writer-in-Residence P.F. Kluge asked the readers of the *Alumni Bulletin*, "Is Kenyon still literary?" Indeed, the question reverberates still: can the small College on a hill continue to walk the literary path trod by the mighty feet of Ransom, Doctorow and Lowell?

On Jan. 21, Kenyon recaptured some of that spirit when over 100 students, faculty and administrators crowded into Peirce Lounge to celebrate the first edition of the new Kenyon-Vassar Chapbook Series.

"This is a historic event," said Acting President and John Crowe Ransom Professor of English Ron Sharp. "I do not recall a time in the 32 years I have been here when there has been a more lively literary life at Kenyon."

"We have an extraordinarily talented creative writing faculty, whose work both in and out of the classroom has fostered a resurgence of student literary engagement. This chapbook series, in addition to bringing to national attention our best student poets, stands as an emphatic exclamation point for this phase of Kenyon's renowned literary tradition," he said.

The chapbooks are short, professional publications, each featuring the poetry of either a Kenyon or Vassar College student. Six chapbooks were published in this first edition, by Kenyon students Michael Cole '03 and Katie Tully '04 and alumni James Ware Carrington, Andrea Sargent and Jennifer Schalliol, along with Vassar's Flora Kim.

Professor of English John Kinsella started the chapbook series, he said, because it would offer promising student poets the opportunity to get published without having to find an agent or write a book-length work.

"There are really some strong young poets at the College," he

A Sea Without Water

Andrea L. Sargent



Kenyon Chapbook Series

featured work from emerging authors
FALL 2002

The first edition of the Kenyon-Vassar Chapbook Series features five Kenyon students and one Vassar student.

said, "and 70% of their work could never see the light of day because of the difficulty getting a first piece published. [The chapbooks] will be giving them that chance."

Tully, who is studying abroad this semester, welcomed the opportunity.

"I took the Intro to Poetry class with Kinsella last spring and he told us about his plans to create the chapbook series," she said. "He gave us the opportunity to take advantage of his access to publishers to get our work out there. I have been writing for as long as I have been walking, and so I thought that I should give it a shot."

Kinsella spoke with Kane about the possibility of having a Vassar student's work featured in one of the books.

"As I recall, I became involved in this project after meeting John Kinsella at a conference in Kansas City last spring," said Kane. "It then occurred to me that, since both Kenyon and Vassar had a long and distinguished tradition in poetry—and since poetry was clearly flourishing at both places now—we might be able to join forces and make the chapbook series a joint venture."

"Professor Kinsella liked the idea immediately and pointed out how unique it would be for two colleges to work together in such

a way. As it turned out, the English Department and the President's Office at Vassar were also enthusiastic about it and I was able to secure the necessary funding. Thus, was born 'The Kenyon and Vassar Chapbook Poets Series,' as it is now called."

The *Kenyon Review* coordinated the layout and design, which was overseen by late *Review* Managing Editor Tom Bigelow and current Managing Editor Meg Galipault.

"This is one of the ways in which *The Kenyon Review* plays an active role in the life of the College," said *Review* Editor-in-Chief David Lynn. "This combines what we do on an international level with the superb writing of the students at Kenyon."

Kinsella is planning to do more chapbook editions in the future, with the next set coming in April and featuring three Kenyon students and three Vassar students.

While he is still unsure of any specific plans after that, he said he is considering expanding the series to include poetry in translation, prose and possibly plays. While he said competition for the six published authors will be intense, he encouraged interested students to submit their poetry to his office in Walton House.

"As far as the value of the series goes," said Kane, "I think there are several points to make. The first is that the series offers young poets at both colleges an opportunity to bring to fruition a writing project of the highest caliber. It is one thing to complete a sheaf of poems, but quite another to prepare those poems for publication."

"Second, many poets do excellent work very early on in their careers and to have such work collected and published is not only

satisfying but potentially valuable in bringing them to the attention of a wider audience.

"And third, such a project underscores the aliveness of poetry at both colleges, suggesting that the poetic tradition for which each place is famous is continuing on. The chapbook series will certainly enhance and highlight that process."

Kinsella agreed, and added that the chapbook series can encourage a further exchange of student literature among colleges.

"It's a community initiative," he said. "It's not just from one place, but from a lot of places."

Kinsella said he would like to see a Kenyon student travel to Vassar to read from his chapbook in the future, and expressed hope that other colleges may look into participating in inter-collegiate literary activities, so writers could travel to read their work at other institutions like athletes travel to their games.

"I am excited to be a part of something that John [Kinsella] calls a revolution," said Tully, "because if anyone can start one, it is that white-haired man dressed in black."

However, she said, the editing and publishing process was not easy.

"The editing process was long and difficult," Tully said. "Even when I was reading at the launch I saw things I wished I could change in the poem, but published is published and I am so glad that it worked out. I would have to say that the hardest part of the process was the layout. My poem was so complicated and so long, we had a tough time fitting it into the limited number of pages each student was allowed."

Tully's favorite poem in her chapbook contains no poetry, however.

"It is strange to have a little book in the bookstore," she said. "My favorite page, though, is the back of the front page, with the ISBN number and the copyright date."

Random Moments

What's the first thing that you'd like President Nugent to do?



"I want her to go get me some fries."

—Billy Callas '06



"Scale the Peirce tower and wave the American flag."

—Joey Neilsen '06



"Give lots of money to the debate team."

—James Lewis '04



"Extend my contract for another five years."

—Maan Hand '03

By Sarah Burson

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Kenyon College

FEBRUARY 6~12

KENYON KALENDAR

FRIDAY 7TH**"BFEC COMMUNITY SERIES:****WINTER SKY"**

@ BFEC

8 p.m.

FILM: MONSTER'S BALL

@ Higley Auditorium

8 p.m.

SATURDAY 8TH**WORSHIP: CATHOLIC MASS**

@ Church of the Holy Spirit

5:30 p.m.

BOWLING NIGHT

@ Bookstore

7 p.m.

DANCE: CHINESE TRADITIONAL**MUSIC AND DANCE**

@ Rosse Hall

8 p.m.

FILM: SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION

@ Higley Auditorium

8 p.m.

CONCERT:**KNOX COUNTY SYMPHONY**

@ First Presbyterian Church,

Mount Vernon

8:15 p.m.

SUNDAY 9TH**CONCERT: LAURA KOSS, JUNIOR****FRENCH HORN RECITAL**

@ Brandi Recital Hall

7 p.m.

WORSHIP: FIRST CONGREGATIONAL**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

@ Mount Vernon

9:30-10:30 a.m.

SUNDAY, CONT'D**POETRY: GLYN MAXWELL**

@ Peirce Lounge

7:30 p.m.

MONDAY 10TH**FACULTY MEETING**

@ Brandi Recital Hall

4:15 p.m.

LECTURE: PROFESSOR XU XIN,**"THE PRACTICE OF JUDAISM IN CHINA:****PAST AND PRESENT"**

@ Higley Auditorium

7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY 11TH**"COLLEGE NOMINATED EXTERNAL
FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS"**

@ Peirce Lounge

Common Hour

NATURAL SCIENCES**DIVISION COLLOQUIUM**

@ Higley Auditorium

Common Hour

**STEW PECKHAM: "INTERVIEW PREPARATION
FOR SUMMER JOBS/INTERNSHIPS"**

@ Weaver Cottage

Common Hour

**LECTURE: MARGARET RANDALL, "WOMEN AND
RESISTANCE: CUBA AND NICARAGUA"**

@ Higley Auditorium

7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 12TH**FILM: BOWLING FOR COLUMBINE**

@ Higley Auditorium

10:15 p.m.

REEL ENTERTAINMENT**IN THEATERS FRIDAY****SHANGHAI KNIGHTS**

CHON (CHAN) AND ROY (WILSON)

HEAD TO LONDON TO FIND THE

REBEL WHO MURDERED CHON'S

FATHER AND SHAKE UP VICTORIAN

BRITAIN IN THE PROCESS. SO IT

SEEMS OUR HEROES WILL HAVE A

COUPLE BATTLES TO FIGHT.

DIRECTOR DAVID DOBKIN**STARRING** JACKIE

CHAN, OWEN WILSON AND

FANN WONG

**DELIVER US
FROM EVA**

THREE YOUNG MEN, DESPERATE TO
KEEP THEIR MEDDLING SISTER OUT
OF THEIR RESPECTIVE RELATION-
SHIPS, HIRE A DIRT POOR
LADY-KILLER (LL COOL J) TO
SWEEP HER OFF HER FEET. BUT
EVEN THOUGH THE SPARKS FLY,
THE BOYS AREN'T SAFE YET.

DIRECTOR GARY HARDWIC**STARRING** GABRIELLA

UNION, LL COOL J AND

ESSENCE ATKINS

**MAY**

MAY (BETTIS) IS A FREAKISH
INTROVERT NEW TO LOS ANGELES,
WHEREUPON SHE LANDS A JOB AS
AN ASSISTANT AT AN ANIMAL
HOSPITAL. HER NUMEROUS ROMANTIC
ENTANGLEMENTS FAIL, AND AS THEY
DO, MAY GETS FRUSTRATED. AND
WHEN SHE GETS FRUSTRATED, SHE
GETS VERY, VERY VIOLENT.

DIRECTOR LUCKY MCKEE**STARRING** ANGELA

BETTIS, JEREMY

SISTO, ANNA FARIS

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SPORTS SCHEDULE

**INDOOR TRACK**

Sat. at Otterbein
College Invitational

LORDS HOOPS

Sat. vs. Allegheny
College
@ 3 p.m.



Wed. at Denison
University
@ 8 p.m.

**LADIES HOOPS**

Wed. at Denison
University
@ 5 p.m.



Fri. at Ohio Wesleyan
University
@ 7:30 p.m.



Sat. vs. Oberlin
College
@ 6 p.m.



Ladies track finishes 'crazy' eighth at NCAC champs

At conference championship meet at Denison Ladies beat Hiram, prep for Otterbein this weekend

BY MICHAEL REYNOLDS
Staff Reporter

The Kenyon Ladies Indoor Track Team took on the best of the competition in the annual North Coast Athletic Conference Relays this past week, taking eighth place overall as a team. Accumulating 28.5 points, the Ladies edged out rival Hiram College, which finished in last place with 21 points.

Although their team point total did not indicate it, the Ladies turned in several fine performances. In the women's pole vaulting competition, first-year Katy Cameron placed third for her individual performance in the vault. However, as this was a relay competition, Cameron finished in seventh place for the relay since she had no one with whom to compete. In relay competition, teams comprised of more than one runner from a school compete and the best combined score for the team is awarded the best places. So, although an individual performance may be worthy of a first or second place finish, the overall team composite is what counts.

Several of the Ladies' teams did place extremely well this past weekend. Senior Christy Jillson



Kevin Guckes

First-year Christina McNamara appears ready to put on another stellar performance at Otterbein.

teamed with Cameron, first-year Anna Esty and first-year Kelly Rotwein to place sixth in the 800 meter relay with a time of 1:57.99. Later in the day, Jillson competed in another strong performance for the Ladies. Jillson, along with sophomore Heather McMillan and first-years Christina McNamara and Kelly Rotwein, recorded a fourth place finish in the 1600 meter relay with a time of 4:22.38. Host school Denison placed first in the

competition with a time of 4:14.69.

Also placing well for the Ladies was the tandem of junior Laura Koss and first-year Lauren Rand. They took home fourth place in the 5000 meter relay with a time of 39:59.42. Another fourth place performance was turned in by the foursome of McNamara, Rotwein, McMillan and junior Anna Bloom, who finished 32 seconds behind first place fin-

isher Denison with a time of 13:00.67 in the distance medley relay.

However, the finest performance of the day was given by the Ladies 3200 meter relay team. Composed of first-years Jocelyn Anthony and Liz Torgersen, as well as senior Erin Shively and Bloom, these Ladies finished third in the competition with a score of 10:17.28.

It was an interesting meet

for the Ladies to compete in because of its relay scoring system. "I think everyone enjoyed doing something a little bit different," said sophomore Lindsay Warner. "Relays are a good way to work on your times or distances, because you have the extra support of your relay teammates for encouragement."

The Ladies look to leave the confines of the Mitchell Recreation and Athletics Center next weekend to participate in the Otterbein Invitational before returning the following weekend to Granville, Ohio, for the annual Denison Big Red Invitational. The Ladies, with the opening Lid-Lifter Invitational and NCAC Relays out of the way, will look to begin to make strides towards improving their times and distances as they hit the major part of their schedule.

Game Day: Ladies Track

•Friday, Feb. 7th: Ladies @ Otterbein Invitational

Hildebrand and Baird set record, Lords run 8th

BY LIAM HAGGERTY
Staff Reporter

The Kenyon College Lords indoor track team, despite entering in only five of the twelve events at last weekend's North Coast Athletic Conference Relays, earned a total of 21 team points, good enough for an eighth place finish. Highlighting the day for the Lords were the performances of seniors Michael Baird and Ben Hildebrand. Running together in the 5000 meter relay, the pair won the race and, in so doing, set a new NCAC Relay meet record. Baird and Hildebrand were both named NCAC Athletes of the Week for their performances at the Relays.

The Relays, held at the Mitchell Recreation and Athletics Center on the campus of Denison University, featured the member schools of the North Coast Athletic Conference. Allegheny College came away as champions of the meet, scoring a total of 81 team points. Wittenberg University took second place, scoring 67 points, just enough to edge out third place Wooster, which won with 66 team points. Prior to Baird and Hildebrand's race this weekend, the NCAC Relay meet record for the 5000 meter relay stood at around 31:29.58. Baird, winning the race in 15:12.73, and Hildebrand, finishing second in 15:19.17, combined for a time of 30:31.90, shat-



Kevin Guckes

Junior P.J. Bumsted trains hard for Otterbein.

tering the previous record, which was set by former Kenyon runners Dan Denning and Ryan Snyder in 1998. Additionally, the second place relay team from Allegheny College finished nearly a minute later than the blistering time set by the Lords. Freshman Mark Geiger commented on his feelings prior to the start of the 5000 meter race, that, "The question wasn't really saying, 'Are Hilde and Baird going to break the record?' but, 'By how much?'"

Baird and Hildebrand, two of the standouts from the Lords Cross Country team and both participants

in the 2002 NCAA Cross Country National Championship, added NCAC Athlete of the Week to their long lists of accomplishments. Both runners are multiple NCAC champs in cross country, indoor and outdoor track. Also, at this year's Cross Country National Championship, Baird earned All-American honors for his 26th place finish.

The headlining event for the Lords may have been the 5000 meter relay, but the Lords also put up solid times in other events. In the distance medley

relay, senior Matt Cabrera, freshman Sean Strader and juniors P.J. Bumsted and Aaron Emig finished in 10:38.03, seven seconds behind the winning team from Wabash

College and good enough for third place. Cabrera and Bumsted were also involved in a fifth place finish in the 3200 meter relay, as they were joined by freshman Rich Bartholomew and sophomore Tyler Newman to combine for a time of 8:31.45. Handicapped by the fact that this was a relay meeting, requiring that a full relay team be fielded in order to participate in an event, the distance-laden Lords were unable to compete in over half of the events. Additionally, for a number of Lords, this was their first opportunity to race this season, as the entire team did not compete in the season opening Lid-Lifter meet two weeks ago.

The NCAC Relays behind them, the Lords head to Otterbein College this weekend for the Otterbein College Invitational. They will not run in a conference meet again until March 7, when the NCAC Indoor Championship will be held at Denison University.

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Turnover, foul trouble continues for Ladies in loss

Against NCAC foes, Ladies hurt themselves with turnover coming out with lone win against Hiram

BY JAMES ROSENBLUM
Staff Reporter

There are many things that could be said about playing a solid basketball game. Mistakes tend to be long term and bite you in the behind. For the Kenyon Ladies basketball team, this trend of sloppy play has been costly. Said Head Coach Suzanne Helfant, "Nothing is more frustrating for a head coach than turnovers. Until we become more disciplined with the ball, we aren't going to win more games."

This proved true this past week as the Ladies entertained NCAC foes Earlham, Hiram and Wittenberg at Tomsich Arena. With a chance to really push up in the standings, the Ladies fought hard. However, their sloppy play caught up with them as they committed 77 turnovers in the three games, which allowed them only a single victory: a 69-56 win over Hiram.

The stretch started promisingly enough, with an early challenge last Wednesday from Earlham College. The Quakers stood at third in the league and had the NCAC's leading rebounder on their team in forward Lindsay Chappell '04. The Ladies had an earlier meeting with Earlham in Richmond, Ind., and despite outrebounding the Quakers 49-37 in that game, Kenyon lost 55-43 as the Ladies managed only five field goals in the second half. Early on Wednesday's contest, Earlham stifled the Ladies early and often, jumping out to an early lead and forcing the Ladies into a time out. After the sluggish start, the Ladies rallied back, as post Katy Zeanah '06 came off the bench and led the Ladies back to a slim two point lead which they carried into the half, 25-23. Unfortunately, all the momentum



Kevin Guckes

First-year point guard Lindsay Madaras surveys the court.

that was stoked in the first half was erased at the beginning of the second, as the Ladies simply could not find the bucket. An Earlham three pointer started a 15-2 run and pushed the Quakers out to a double digit lead. The Ladies managed only three field goals in the first 15 minutes of the half and, despite playing solid defense, ended the game with a 52-44 loss.

The Ladies were led by Zeanah, who chalked up 13 points, and forward Lauren Camp '03, who registered nine points and nine rebounds. However, this was not enough to counteract a game-high 16 points for Earlham guard Michelle Behler.

Stinging from this tough loss, the Ladies took to the floor again Saturday when the Hiram College Terriers invaded Tomsich Arena. With Hiram having only one win on their resume, a win was very much a possibility. Early on, the Ladies looked sharp as Zeanah and guard Dana Halicki '05 sparked an early run to build the Ladies a comfortable double digit lead at 31-16. The Ladies stifled Hiram, forcing turnover after turnover and led 37-

25 at the half. The second half started out well for the Ladies, as the return of forward Beth Lye '03 from a previous injury indicated. Lye made several tough shots in the lane en route to 12 points, and the Ladies continued to dominate. Hiram made things interesting when a jumper by forward Amanda Hummell '04 cut the Kenyon lead to two at 49-47. That would be as close as the Terriers got, as Lye and Zeanah guided the Ladies home and put away Earlham 69-56.

Lye's presence was key for the Ladies, as Helfant indicated, "Her absence made her teammates step up. Now with her back, it's going to help us down the road." Zeanah led the Ladies once again with a game-high 14 points and 6 rebounds, while Halicki chipped in 11 points and 5 rebounds. Forward Terra Roane '05 led the Terriers off the bench with 11 points.

Sitting at 1-1 on the homestand, the Ladies entertained conference leader Wittenberg at Tomsich Arena this last Tuesday. The Tigers sported

a 14-4 record and nine game win streak and looked to bury Kenyon in their own barn. Early on, it looked as though this game was going to be tough for the Ladies, as they stumbled out of the gate, falling behind by six and forcing Helfant to call a time out. After that it was all downhill, as the Tigers went on a huge run to boost the lead to 16 at 31-15. Halicki and Guard Eileen Wittman '03 kept the Ladies

within striking distance by narrowing the lead to 39-29 at the half. Unfortunately, that would be as close as the Ladies would get, as the Tigers buckled down and capitalized on 32 turnovers by the Ladies, building a 23 point lead at 61-38 and eventually finishing off Kenyon 70-57. Halicki was one of few bright spots in a difficult game for the Ladies with a game high 14 points on four 3-pointers. The Wittenberg trio of forward Tiffany Keller '03 (12 pts), guard Stephanie Campbell '03 (12 pts) and center Rebecca Meers '03 (11 pts, 7 rebounds) slammed the door on any hopes of a Ladies comeback.

Sitting at 9-10 (4-7 NCAC), the Ladies take to the road this weekend in hopes of a better return. Friday night, the Ladies have a rematch with the Ohio Wesleyan Battling Bishops in Delaware, Ohio. Tip time is 7:30 p.m. The Ladies then return to Tomsich Arena on senior night as the Oberlin College Yeowomen come to town. Game time is 7:30 p.m. as the Ladies look to avenge an earlier loss to their conference rival on the same night that they honor their three senior Ladies.



Kevin Guckes

Senior Eileen Wittman goes up for a layup.

Lords swimmers leave Wooster in their wake 125-90

BY SHARON SORKIN
Staff Reporter

On Friday, Lords swimmers traveled an hour north to nearby Wooster for the last dual meet of the season before the NCAC championships in Canton, Ohio in two weeks. The Lords, after a tough loss to the University of Cincinnati last week, battled back against the Fighting Scots. Swimming strong would be an understatement for their performance this week, sweeping the meet almost entirely without giving Wooster a chance for any semblance of victory or pride. With this win, the Lords improved to 7-2 this season, gaining 125 points over Wooster's 90.

The first event of the day,

the 200 yard medley relay, found sophomore Gabe Rodrigues, sophomore Will Wakefield, sophomore Tom Ashby and sophomore Chris Lohr heading up the pack with a first place time of 1:42.30. Second place in the relay were Lords juniors Tres Smith, Petar Kvaric, Fernando Rodriguez and Joe Strike, who completed the race just tenths of a second late with a time of 1:42.80. The next event was the 1,000 yard freestyle, in which freshman Travis Brennon clinched his first place finish with a time of 10:19.95, followed by second place freshman Chris D'Ardenne and third place Smith. Brennon later went on to win the 200 yard breaststroke as well in 2:11.10, followed by junior Kvaric, who took second, and freshman Bell, who took third.

The 200 yard freestyle was claimed by first place Lord sophomore Peter Gosselar, who finished the race in 1:49.00. Gosselar was followed closely by second place sophomore Tom Ashby (1:50.42) and third place freshman Jimmy Berger (1:50.76). Rodrigues, another winning sophomore, took both of his backstroke events. First, the 100 yard backstroke (57.06)—followed by senior Dan Kieper (58.25)—and then later the 200 yard backstroke, which Rodrigues completed with a winning time of 2:02.75. The runners up for the 200 yard backstroke were senior Justin Karpinos, freshman Chris Kliner, senior Kieper and sophomore Wakefield, who took third, fourth, fifth and sixth places, respectively.

The sophomore class winning streak continued as sophomore Leandro Monteiro won the 100 yard freestyle with a first place time of 1:49.00, and sophomore Lain Shakespeare claimed a victory in the 100 yard butterfly. He finished the race in a stellar 56.02. But winning for the Lords was indiscriminate of class, as the seniors tallied up victories as well as newer swimmers. Senior Kieper dominated the 200 yard butterfly, finishing the race in first place with a time of 2:03.65. Sophomore Shakespeare followed him in second place with senior Karpinos not far behind in third. Fellow senior Jon Philipsborn tackled his race of the 50 yard freestyle completing the sprint in just 22.49, while junior Joe Strike took second place and sophomore

Chris Lohr took third.

Overall, the Lords won 11 out of the total 15 events, continuing to show the NCAC just what Kenyon swimmers are made of. Although Kenyon swimmers Brennon and Rodrigues proved themselves unbeatable, winning two individual events, the team as a whole performed impressively, readying themselves for the NCAC Championships that start Feb. 13. "These of us who aren't swimming in nationals are resting this week," said junior Joe Strike. But "resting" for the swimmers still means daily practices and unwavering physical commitment. The Lords hope that such preparation will mean that the NCAC championships are just the beginning of their competition.

Lords basketball drops high scoring affair 98-93

BY ERIC FITZGERALD
Staff Reporter

Despite dropping to 1-18 on the season and losing its sixth consecutive game, the Lords basketball team showed its fans a glimmer of hope in a 98-93 loss at home to Washington and Jefferson College on Monday.

"It was a tough loss, but we all enjoyed being in a good, close game. That hasn't happened a lot this year," freshman point guard Matt Formato said. "It's tough to win without a big man."

The Lords used defensive pressure on both ends of the court to jump ahead of the Presidents, 53-50, before falling in the second half.

According to Formato, the Presidents' adjustments on offense gave them the advantage late. "That was a change strictly for Washington and Jefferson," said Formato. "They had one or two good ball handlers, and we wanted to use our quickness and athleticism to put a lot of pressure on them."

The Presidents also made their way to the charity stripe 41 times. The full-court press eventually transformed into utter fatigue, as the Lords could no longer control the momentum and resorted to fouling.

"We started to turn up the tempo, and we ended having trouble defensively [in] getting to the right spots," Head Coach Dave Kunka said. "It was the first time we have done that, and we wore out in the second half and committed some fouls. It's pretty hard to overcome 32 free throws."



Freshman Tyler Rehm shoots over a defender.

Formato led the team with 26 points, which he scored in 25 minutes. Senior John Campbell scored 18 and junior Aaron Stancik finished with 15 in another valiant effort coming off the bench. As a team, the Lords shot 47 percent from the field, including 14-31 shooting from three-point land.

Formato impressed the crowd as the Lords built a 10 point lead in the first half of Monday's game, and his offensive production that night was not a deviation from his entire freshman season. Formato is second on the team in scoring with a 15.9 average, shooting 38.9 percent from behind the arc and leading the team with an average of 3.2 assists.

"He's definitely been our number one offensive weapon," said Kunka. "He can do so much with the ball, and we need him offensively to carry our load. Offense hasn't been our problem. Definitely, Matt's been a

plus."

A conference battle with the College of Wooster, on Saturday, flung the Lords back to Gambier with a 92-55 loss. The fall to the nation's sixth-ranked and NCAC's first-place Fighting Scots dropped the Lords to 1-9 in the conference prior to their home meeting with Oberlin College, which was played yesterday.

Despite recent troubles, the team remains confident it will scrap together some victories before the season is over.

The first Saturday afternoon home game is this weekend, when 9-10 Allegheny College visits the Ernst Center. Allegheny posted an 83-68 win over Kenyon in Allegheny, Jan. 11.

"It's a team we should beat," Formato said. "Last game, they went on a scoring spurt where we played practically no defense. This game, we should not let that happen, and it will be a much closer game."

According to Kunka, the 1-18

Game Day:
Men's Basketball
•Saturday, Feb. 8:
Lords v. Allegheny
Gators, 3 p.m.
•Wednesday, Feb. 12:
Lords @ Denison
8:00 p.m.

record is not an indication of how well his team can play.

"We're going to learn a lot about ourselves playing with a record that is 1-18," said Kunka. "The keys to me are to see who thinks it's important to play competitively at the end of the season. We all want to turn the corner and it

may be tough to come to practice when you're 1-18, but we need to see which guys are going to be with us for the long haul."

While Formato may be putting up the most impressive numbers, his freshman classmates are also turning in important minutes for the Lords. Freshman power forward Tyler Rehm has started all 18 games of his collegiate career, averaging 10.6 points and 3.2 rebounds per game. Guard Arlen Galloway and freshman forward Matt Reynolds have received considerable increases in playing time in recent games. While Paul Grady is the lone representative of the sophomore class, the freshman class believes it will leave its mark on the Kenyon basketball tradition, according to Formato.

"We all feel really good about our chances in the coming years," said Formato. "We also know that it will take a lot of work."



Kevin Guckes

Junior point guard Aaron Stancik beats Denison down the court.

Ladies drop Wooster in final tuneup before NCAC finals

Senior Hoffman dominates diving events, and distance swimmers come up big as Ladies look strong

BY JUSTIN KARPINOS
Staff Reporter

Last Friday, the Kenyon Ladies swim team traveled to Wooster, Ohio, to take on the College of Wooster. In a decisive conference win over the Scotswomen, who have of late become a legitimate force in the NCAC and in Division III, the Ladies captured nine of the sixteen contested swimming events and both diving events.

The 200 yard medley relay was won handily by the Wooster 'A' team, which outdistanced the Kenyon team by over three seconds. The Ladies, swimming without many of their top sprinters, managed to take second and third.

In the 1000 freestyle, however, Rachel Smith '06 and Kristin Landry '04 pulled away from Wooster's early leader, Liz Whittam. Whittam, a 2002 all-American in both the 200 and 400 individual medley events, was unable to break away from Smith and Landry, who cruised to a 1-2 finish. Ariel Nonberg '06 finished fourth and actually outsplitted

Whittam in the final 500 yards en route to a lifetime best.

"It was a tough place to swim," said Landry of Wooster's Timken Natatorium. "The walls aren't great, and the turn end is really shallow."

"As a team," she continued, "we're at a lot of different places right now. Some people have been sick, and others are just beginning to taper and may not have their rhythms yet. We shouldn't get worried, even if the times aren't there yet—we need to focus on racing and count on all the good swims we have behind us as preparation."

Smith and Landry's strong closing speed was mirrored by the 200 yard freestyle swims of senior Ladies Melissa Holt and Erinn Hurley, who caught Wooster's aggressive Elizabeth Roesch at the 100 yard mark on their way to another 1-2 finish.

Jennie Miller '06 and Sam McCarthy '05 were the third pair of Ladies to earn a 1-2 finish, this time in the 100 backstroke. Miller and McCarthy finished in 1:02.42

and 1:03.09, respectively.

First-year Christina Stratton, in one of the most exciting races of the evening, gave the Ladies another first place finish as she won the 100 breaststroke in 1:09.67, just .22 ahead of Whittam. Sophomore Kelly Quinn finished third.

The 200 butterfly saw the Ladies earn another 1-2 finish. Senior Ashley Rowatt and Danielle Korman '06 finished in 2:11.49 and 2:16.02, respectively. Rowatt's winning time was also a Wooster pool record.

Wooster's Kayla Keising won the 50 freestyle in 23.79 to give the Scotswomen their first individual victory. Her time was also a Wooster pool record. First-year Lady Jane Alexander was second, and Emmie Dengler '05 was fourth.

Senior Quinn Hoffman easily won both the 1-meter and 3-meter diving events, taking first place on each board by over 30 points.

Holt won her second event of the afternoon by taking the 100 freestyle in an impressive in-season time of 53.36. Alexander and Dengler were third and fourth, respectively. Miller

swept the second backstroke race of the afternoon by winning in 2:13.58. McCarthy was just out-touched by Wooster's Kim Chambers for second place—2:16.56 to 2:16.87.

Wooster got its second individual win of the day from Jenny Bayuk, who pulled away from a trio of Ladies—Mandy Cole '06, Natalie Mrak '06 and Laura Wareck '03—at the 75 yard mark to win in 2:29.42, nearly seven seconds ahead of second place. Bayuk currently holds the fastest Division III time in the country in the race (2:21.92).

Smith earned her second victory by winning the 500 freestyle in 5:13.01, while Rowatt was second in 5:14.43. Carly Chornobil '06, Rachel Azaroff '06 and Erinn Hurley '03 swept the 100 butterfly. In the final individual race of the day, Rowatt and Mrak finished 1-2 in the 200 Individual Medley.

Wooster's 200 freestyle relay, however, ended the meet on a positive note for the Fighting

Scotswomen by winning by over a second in 1:40.15 over the Ladies' quartet of Alexander, Hurley, Dengler and Holt.

"This was a meet that we expected to win going in," said Landry, "but Coach [Jim Steen] mentioned to us that [Wooster] actually beat Denison earlier this year in a dual meet and had put up some really impressive times this year. He made it clear that we were really going to have to swim well, and I think we responded."

The Ladies' will try to carry this momentum into the NCAC Championships, which are scheduled for Feb. 13-15 at Canton, Ohio's C.T. Branin Natatorium. Preliminaries begin each morning at 10 p.m. and finals begin at 6 p.m.

Said Landry, "We expect the conference meet to be very close—We can't go in thinking that we're automatically going to win it, because the past two years have been very close. We need to be aware of other teams and get used to performing under that kind of pressure."

The Last Word...

With eyes to the heavens...

Kenyon and Gambier confront Columbia tragedy

Perhaps it was the memory.

Memory of the last time students gathered in front of the television at Peirce Hall, watching silently on a September morning two years ago as cable news anchors attempt to piece together the sporadic details of unfolding tragedy into a cohesive whole.

Memory that students may have heard only second-hand: of Challenger and the up-close, nationally-televised explosion 17 years earlier to the week.

Perhaps, in the end, it is the continuing awe of space: the courage of normal men and women to fly where few have ever traveled before, the almost-expected celebration at their return, the stunned sorrow at their loss. President George W. Bush told the nation that day, "In the skies today we saw destruction and tragedy. Yet farther than we can see there is comfort and hope. In the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'Lift your eyes and look to the heavens.'"

Seven ordinary people looked to the heavens, and the heavens have taken them up. And perhaps only that could have brought the eerie gravity that crossed the Kenyon campus and the nation Feb. 1. Today, several members of the Kenyon and Gambier communities reflect on the Columbia tragedy.

Peace in the face of all peril

The Rev. Stephen Carlsen

From a sermon delivered Sunday, Feb. 2-

Let us also pray for the families and friends of those who died on the shuttle Columbia. Let us pray for the very soul of those astronauts. But let us also remember something: let their sacrifice be a reminder that they gave their lives not in hatred, not in anger, not in war, but in wonder. They risked all and paid all for learning, for science, for adventure and exploration. They knew the risks. Amid the uncertainty of space flight, they took those risks because underneath they had a courage and a peace. That courage and that peace is not gone, not taken for granted. Let it be an inspiration to young and old alike. Let us see in it that we can indeed have a peace in the face of all peril [and] danger. That the love of God is greater than peril, danger or sword. Let us live that love and that peace, let us pray for it, work for it.

To see a brighter future

Hillel Director Michael Cooper

The Jewish community is especially feeling the loss of one of our own, Ilan Ramon. His involvement in the shuttle mission was a source of great pride and inspiration for Jews and the nation of Israel. His accomplishments gave the Israelis a sense of hope during the difficult times they have been experiencing of late. He was well aware of how the Jewish people were feeling about his presence on Columbia. He requested kosher food and observed the Jewish sabbath and performed Jewish sabbath rituals aboard the shuttle. The son of a Holocaust survivor, he took into space a miniature Torah which Yehoyahin Yosef, who is now a distinguished professor of planetary physics in Israel, carried with him when he was sent to Bergen-Belsen. Also, he had along with him from the collection of Yad Vashem, a drawing called Lunar Landscape made by a 14 year-old boy who was sent to the Treblinka ghetto. These items, he said, symbolized "the ability of the Jewish people to survive everything, including horrible periods, and go from the darkest days to days of hope and faith in the future." I think these words are something that we all can take comfort in. For there have been dark, sad and difficult times for many peoples and individuals... yet with hope and faith we can get through them and we will live to see a brighter future.

The crew of the Columbia consisted of men and women, people of different races, religions, cultures and nationalities. Yet they were together, fulfilling their dreams. They showed what can be achieved when we all get together and work for the common good of all. Though they were high above the Earth, they were working to make life better for all of us and for our future on this planet. If we wish to truly honor their memory, it is our duty to carry on their work. That is how they will live on.

We should accept the risk

Professor of Physics Benjamin Schumacher

It is going to be immensely difficult to track down the exact cause. Lots of attention has focused on a piece of insulation that struck the left wing on take-off—but this was studied pretty closely before the orbiter came back, and there was no reason to think that it would cause such a catastrophe. Another possibility is that the heat shield could have been damaged by collision with orbiting space debris before re-entry. There are many other scenarios. The problem is, some of these would be very, very difficult to verify unless we are fortunate enough to recover the right pieces of the orbiter, which is spread across a huge area.

It may be that, when we resume flying the shuttle, we will still have some residual uncertainty about just what happened to the Columbia. Launch and re-entry are the most dangerous parts of space travel. All of the people that have been lost in spaceflight—by the Soviets in 1967 and 1971, and by us in 1986 and last weekend—have been lost then. This makes all kinds of sense. When you have huge rockets blasting, or tremendous heat and stress, a problem can develop fast and there is not much you can do about it. By contrast, accidents in space itself—the Apollo 13 explosion, the fire and the collision aboard the Russian Mir space station—develop more slowly, and give the astronauts and ground engineers more time to salvage the situation. But someday, we can be sure that we will lose people in deep space as well. To assume a risk is to know that, at a time not of your own choosing, you will pay a price.

The Columbia disaster and the loss of the seven astronauts is the price that we have paid, at a time not of our choosing, for human spaceflight. Is human spaceflight worth the risk? Absolutely. This isn't really the right occasion to explain fully why I am such a very strong supporter of human spaceflight. But I believe that, once we have investigated thoroughly, we should resume shuttle operations and continue to build the International Space Station. We should accept the risk. And we should also spend some serious resources to design and build new vehicles to replace the shuttles—and the sooner the better. We should go back to the Moon, this time to stay; and we should go to Mars and the near-Earth asteroids. It isn't just the science (though the science will be terrific); it is exploration, the enlargement of human experience. Robots cannot do that for us. We need to do it ourselves. That's why some of the best people around—intelligent, highly trained, responsible, dedicated astronauts—are willing to assume such risks. Their loss is a grief to all of us.



Jim Bourg/Reuters

A toy space shuttle inscribed with the names of the seven lost astronauts was placed at the makeshift memorial for the space shuttle Columbia.

Risk factors

Associate Professor of Physics Paula Turner

The loss of Space Shuttle Columbia and her crew is a national tragedy. No amount of explanation or analysis can mitigate the loss that we feel, individually and collectively. Still, it may be worthwhile to try to understand some of the technical issues that may be mentioned during investigations into the cause of this tragic accident.

Records of technical data relayed to the ground by various on-board sensors indicated abnormally high temperatures developing in the left side wheel wells for the landing gear before the temperature sensors ceased reporting data. Left wing temperature sensors failed without having shown high temperatures prior to failure. Shortly after that, automatic steering jets fired, apparently to counteract increased drag on the left wing surface. Then all communications with the shuttle were lost. NASA experts are still examining sensor data from the data stream that was being downloaded from the shuttle right before the connection was lost.

Shuttles have elaborate heat shielding systems to cope with the high temperatures generated during re-entry. The nose and the wing edges experience the highest temperatures, and they are covered with a material that can withstand temperatures of 3,000 degrees Fahrenheit. The underside of the shuttle, which experiences somewhat lower temperatures during a controlled re-entry, is covered with

25,000 separate tiles, each of which is composed of two inch thick silicate (a rock-like ceramic material) covered with a glassy coating or glaze. These tiles seem to be a potential source of some vulnerability.

Posted on NASA's web site is a 1994 document describing a probabilistic risk analysis carried out by independent researchers from Stanford and Carnegie Mellon Universities to examine the risk component associated with the black tiles used in the thermal protection system. They identified a number of different risk factors including damage to tiles by collisions with debris, a common occurrence during launch, and de-bonding of the tiles from the shuttle surface, whether triggered by collisions or simply by deterioration in the binding substances.

In their report, they identified particular zones that are more critical than others, from the standpoint of the potential for damage to those areas to result in loss of the vehicle and crew. This analysis has allowed NASA to target those zones more heavily in their tile inspection, maintenance, and replacement efforts. The analysis also identified training, scheduling and maintenance practices aimed at reducing the frequency of de-bonding of tiles. This report highlights the care and precision NASA is willing to devote to maintaining the safety of its missions.